



ICAR-NAARM



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Director's Message / निदेशक का संदेश

With the current unprecedented circumstances, we find ourselves moving along with the new normal! The current lockdown has created unforeseen challenges in all spheres of life. We, as an Academy, had to shift to online mode from the conventional way of physical classes and meetings. I am very happy to share that the Academy has accepted the challenges positively and has smoothly moved to online mode for almost all the mandated activities. During the period, the 23rd IRC was organized virtually wherein a total of 49 research projects including 19 completed, 20 on-going and 10 new projects were discussed. Six training programmes were organized during the period, all through online mode. Many events including International Yoga Day were also organized with maintaining social distancing. I am happy to share that the admission process of PGDMA 2020-22 was successfully completed in which more than 500 candidates were interviewed virtually. The PGDMA 2018-20 batch have successfully completed their academic programme.



We are continuing to provide our guest house for quarantine facility and will continue to do so till it is required. Automatic sanitizers have been installed in various places of the Academy to safeguard the wellbeing of all NAARM members. I pray for the safety of each and every one of us and our family members.

In this issue...	
Scientific Meetings.....	2
Research Projects.....	3
Training Programmes.....	6
Events.....	8
PGDMA News.....	11
a-IDEA News.....	11
Faculty Achievements.....	13
Staff News.....	19
Upcoming Events.....	20

वर्तमान अभूतपूर्व परिस्थितियों के साथ हम खुद को नए सामान्य के साथ आगे बढ़ रहे हैं! वर्तमान लॉकडाउन ने जीवन के सभी क्षेत्रों में अप्रत्याशित चुनौतियां पैदा की हैं। हमने, एक अकादमी के रूप में, शारीरिक कक्षाओं और बैठकों के पारंपरिक तरीके से ऑनलाइन मोड में शिफ्ट कर दिया। मुझे यह बताते हुए बहुत खुशी हो रही है कि अकादमी ने चुनौतियों को सकारात्मक रूप से स्वीकार किया है और लगभग सभी अनिवार्य गतिविधियों के लिए आसानी से ऑनलाइन मोड में चला गया है। इस अवधि के दौरान, 23^{वीं} आईआरसी को ऑनलाइन आयोजित किया गया, जिसमें 19 पूर्ण, 20 ऑन-गोइंग और 10 नई परियोजनाओं सहित कुल 49 अनुसंधान परियोजनाओं पर चर्चा की गई। ऑनलाइन मोड के माध्यम इस तिमाही के दौरान छह प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम आयोजित किए गए। अंतर्राष्ट्रीय योग दिवस सहित कई कार्यक्रमों का आयोजन सामाजिक दूरी को बनाए रखने के साथ किया गया। मुझे यह बताते हुए खुशी हो रही है कि पीजीडीएमए 2020-22 की प्रवेश प्रक्रिया सफलतापूर्वक पूरी हो गई जिसमें लगभग 500 से अधिक उम्मीदवारों का साक्षात्कार लिया गया। पीजीडीएमए 2018-20 बैच ने अपने शैक्षणिक कार्यक्रम को सफलतापूर्वक पूरा कर लिया है।

हम अपने गेस्ट हाउस को संगरोध सुविधा प्रदान करने के लिए जारी रख रहे हैं और जब तक यह आवश्यक है तब तक ऐसा रखेंगे। अकादमी के विभिन्न स्थानों में स्वचालित सैनिटाइजर स्थापित किए गए हैं जो सभी NAARM सदस्यों की सुरक्षा की दृष्टि से अनिवार्य है। मैं हमारे और हमारे परिवार के सदस्यों में से प्रत्येक की सुरक्षा के लिए प्रार्थना करता हूँ।

(Ch. Srinivasa Rao)

Scientific Meetings

Implementation of the Financial Solution on Mainstreaming Biodiversity in Public Finance

A meeting to review the implementation of the financial solution on mainstreaming in public finance (agriculture sector) was held through video conferencing on May 7, 2020 as a part of GoI-UNDP-BCIL project on “Strengthening Natural Resource Management (SNRM): A framework for mainstreaming biodiversity conservation in the development schemes of agriculture sector in India” implemented at ICAR-NAARM, Hyderabad.

The meeting was convened by National Biodiversity Authority (NBA), Chennai and was attended by officials from NBA, UNDP, BCIL and ICAR-NAARM. Dr. VB Mathur, Chairman NBA and Secretary, NBA highlighted the significance of the project and called for re-scheduling the activities in the light of ongoing pandemic. Dr. Rajagopalan IAS, Former Secretary, MoEFCC and Senior Technical Consultant, UNDP, India explained the overall contour of the study.

Dr. P Krishnan, Principal Scientist, ICAR-NAARM made a detailed presentation on the project, with the objectives, work plan, progress so far and revised plans in the light of the lockdown / pandemic. Dr. Ruchi Pant, Head, NRM, UNDP shared information on the case studies related to agriculture sector and subsidies which were discussed during the BIOFIN – OCED Global Conference. Dr. Vibha Ahuja, Chief General Manager, BCIL suggested to strengthen the study by covering schemes of other relevant Ministries.

Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, NAARM highlighted the relevance of the study for NAARM and assured that the tasks will be undertaken in the light of the suggestions given by various experts. He also mentioned that the concept of mainstreaming in biodiversity will be internalized in the Foundation Courses and relevant capacity building courses organized by the Academy.

23rd Institute Research Council Meeting

The 23rd Institute Research Council (IRC) meeting was held during Jun 2-3, 2020 in virtual mode. The Chairman, IRC and Director appreciated the efforts of the faculty for their contributions in effective implementation of the mandate of the Academy and highlighted the need for considering the recommendations of QRT and RAC while proposing new research projects. Dr. RC Agrawal, Deputy Director General (Education), ICAR gave a virtual inaugural address encouraging the scientists of the Academy for doing all the mandated activities even



during such difficult situation. A total of 49 research projects including 19 completed, 20 on-going and 10 new projects were discussed during the seven technical sessions including the plenary, each headed by the Chair and Co-Chair with rapporteur support.

Out of 19 completed projects, 8 were in-house and 11 were extra mural while among the on-going projects, 11 were in-house and 9 were extra mural funded. This IRC has extended the project duration of 6 projects in order to accomplish the project objectives.

NAARM establishes Model CDCs and FDC at SAUs

ICAR-NAARM under National Agricultural Higher Education Project (NAHEP) Component 2 established the Career Development Centers (CDCs) at Central Agricultural University (CAU), Imphal; Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya (IGKV), Raipur; Sri Karan Narendra Agricultural University (SKNAU), Jobner; Sri Venkateswara Veterinary University (SVVU), Tirupati and Uttar Banga Krishi Viswavidyalay (UBKV), Coochbehar. The major objective of the Career Development Center is to make the students confident, matured professional, trained in soft skill, and who is ready to support country's mission of 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' through entrepreneurship. Faculty Development Centre (FDC) has been established at Govind Ballabh Pant University of Agriculture and Technology (GBPUAT), Pantnagar with the objective to strengthen teaching and professional competency of the SAUs and bring best global practices in the higher agricultural education system in the country.



For implementation of the scheme and constitution of CDC and FDC committee, 1st virtual review meeting on status of establishment of CDCs / FDC with nodal officers / Coordinators of CDCs/FDC was held on June 22, 2020 under the Chairmanship of Dr. SK Soam, Joint Director, CPI, NAHEP component 2. Dr. D Thammi Raju, Co-PI briefly explained about the genesis, objectives and outputs of NAHEP component 2 and also discussed the focal areas of CDCs and FDC. The University officials presented the status and action plans of their CDCs & FDC.

(Programme coordinators: Drs. N Srinivasa Rao & Alok Kumar)

Virtual Meeting of NAAS Associates of Hyderabad Chapter



A virtual meeting of Associates of NAAS based in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh was held through video conference mode on June 24, 2020 in order to review the ongoing activities of the Regional Chapter of NAAS, Hyderabad and to plan the future activities. Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, NAARM, Fellow of NAAS and NASI and Convener, NAAS-Hyderabad chapter chaired the meeting and Dr. RM Sundaram, Principal Scientist, ICAR-IIRR, Hyderabad and NAAS Fellow served as the convener. The meeting was attended by a total of four Associates of NAAS belonging to the

States of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. The NAAS Associates who attended the meeting are: Dr. Damodar Reddy, Director, ICAR-CTRI, Rajahmundry, Dr. BM Naveena, Principal Scientist, ICAR-NRCM, Hyderabad, Dr. Manish Pandey, Sr. Scientist, ICRISAT, Hyderabad and Dr. SK Mangrauthia, Sr. Scientist, ICAR-IIRR, Hyderabad.



Research Projects

Structural Changes in Agricultural Marketing in India: Effect on Inclusiveness and Smallholders' Income

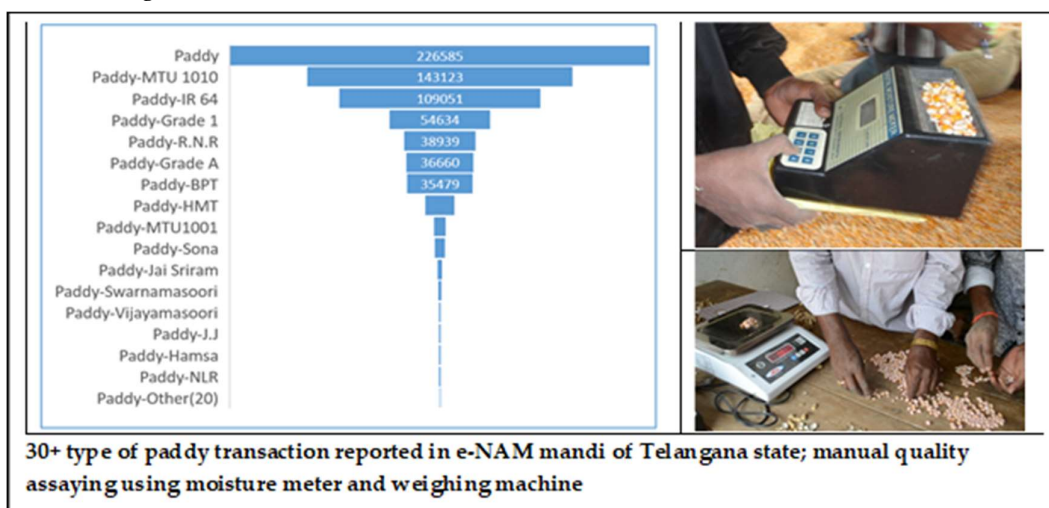
The structural changes in the agricultural marketing in India was initiated with the launch of e-NAM in the year 2016 with integrating 21 APMC mandis across 8 states,

which further expanded to 417 mandis across 13 states in March 2017. As on May 2020, total 1000 APMC mandis have been integrated to e-NAM portal and 150

commodities have been identified to be traded through e-NAM. The present study was initiated in April 2017 to examine the preparedness of APMC mandis in adopting the e-NAM, the extent and pattern of participation by the smallholders in the new market system, and constraints in realising the full benefits from ongoing transformation in the APMC markets in 4 major states (Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, and Telangana). The data was collected during field survey from the farmers, traders, and mandi officials in these states. Besides, secondary data about transactions, live trading on e-NAM, and prices of the commodities were collected from eNAM portal and Agmarknet websites. The transaction data from e-NAM portal suggested that top one-fourth of e-NAM mandis in these states handled more than two-third volume of commodities, while only 4-5 types of commodities constituted about 75% of transaction value in each mandi. However, there is large number of varieties of the same

commodities, making quality assaying of each lot very difficult. Moreover, in recent year, participation of smallholder farmers in the APMC mandis has increased. Though difference in prices received by the farmers inside e-NAM mandis or outside the mandis across the states are not significant. Similarly, arrival of large number of lots during peak season and on an average 30-35 minute time taken in assaying of the required 4-5 quality parameters of each commodity makes it difficult for uploading quality specification of each lot for online trading. Due to this, largely local traders physically available in the e-NAM mandis are the major buyer of the commodities undermining the intent of effective price discovery. The policy recommendations have been suggested to strengthen the e-NAM operations and make it more effective and inclusive.

(Project team: Drs. Ranjit Kumar (PI), Sanjiv Kumar, PC Meena, N Sivaramane & B Ganesh Kumar)



Text Analytics of the queries raised at Kisan Call Centres in South India

In order to harness the potential of ICT in Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture launched the "Kisan Call Centers (KCCs)" scheme on January 21, 2004. The main aim of the scheme is to answer farmers' queries on a telephone call in their own dialect. This has led to availability of a huge amount of information regarding the problems faced by the farmers that are raised as queries for which the solutions are provided KCCs. The project was carried out to identify the trending queries raised at Kisan Call Centers located in south Indian states and to group the districts based on the queries raised. The district-wise monthly queries raised during the year 2017 in 120 districts of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamilnadu and Telangana were used for the study. About 57 lakh queries were raised in the study period out of which > 60% were related to weather. Among others,

'market' and 'market rate' were the unigram and bigram, respectively, that were most commonly observed. The non-weather related queries were used to carry out the text analytics using Latent Dirichlet Allocation, a topic modelling technique and cluster analysis. Accordingly, the text corpus found to have 12 major topics and the 120 districts were divided into 5 clusters based on the term frequency and term-document frequency. The topic consisting the words 'management, paddy, cotton, chilli, leaf, sucking, borer, pest, nutrient, stem' was found to be the most raised topic. The project was carried out in collaboration with MANAGE, Hyderabad and the project team comprised

(Project team: Drs. BS Yashavanth (PI), PD Sreekanth and Jabir Ali)

Profiling the Resources Devoted to Agricultural R&D and Development of National Framework for Evidence-based S&T Governance in India



institutions and Agricultural Universities in India, for the

The project was sponsored by DST, GoI and implemented by NAARM during 2018-2020, in collaboration with International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), Washington. Data pertaining to (i) human resources deployed (ii) financial resources used (iii) research focus and (iv) research outputs were collected from all ICAR

period from 2014-15 till 2017-18. The GoI has released the S&T Indicators tables and the R&D Statistics 2019-20, wherein the data collected by NAARM for the agricultural sector have been integrated. Thus, through this project, NAARM was part of a national initiative for collecting S&T data for the farm sector and thus, aid in evidence-based policy making in India. The Academy also developed a prototype for the Dashboard jointly with one of the IT firms empaneled with NAARM, to aid in data-driven decision making in the domain of agricultural research.

(Project team: Drs. Ch. Srinivasa Rao (Project Leader), P Krishnan (PI), B Ganesh Kumar, SK Soam, M Balakrishnan and BS Yashavanth)

National Web Portal for SAU Alumni Developed under NAHEP

Under the NAARM component of NAHEP, the framework of a National Web Portal for the SAUs Alumni was developed after wide consultations during the meeting held at NAARM on January 22, 2020, where stakeholders from IASRI, Academia and Industry participated. As per agreed responsibility, the IASRI, New Delhi to develop the online platform, and NAARM to develop format of dataset, collect it and contribute to the national portal. The online platform has been developed and as initial input, NAARM has provided the dataset of approximately 5000 alumni of various SAUs. The Alumni portal is available at ICAR website <http://alumni.icar.gov.in>



Preparation of DPR and ToR for Capacity building and knowledge sharing of individuals and institutions in Karnataka

The Detailed Project Report (DPR) and Terms of Reference (ToR) for Capacity building and knowledge sharing of individuals and institutions in Karnataka has been prepared comprising of detailed modules for 2 Awareness Creation Programs for coastal community; 08 Skill Development Programs for the fishers and 02 Management Development Programs for the state officers. Further, a comprehensive framework for developing MyCoast- a one stop solution for coastal dwellers and a Single Window Platform for real-time fish

marketing and e-auctioning were also included for implementation in Karnataka under ICZM and further scaling up for the entire country.

(Project team: Drs. Ch. Srinivasa Rao (Project Leader), P Krishnan (PI), SK Soam and Bharat S. Sontakki)

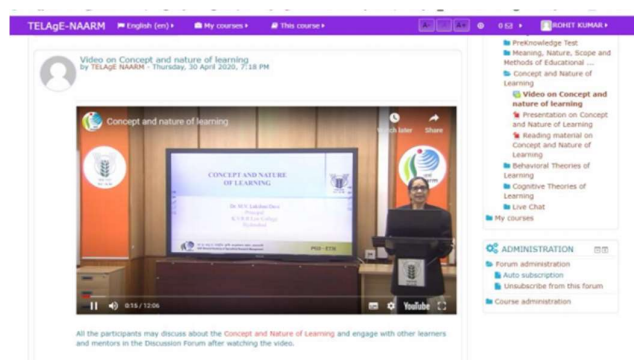


Training Programmes

MOOC on Psychology of Learning for Stay-home Learning

In its ever-continuing endeavors to meet the capacity building needs of NARES, the Academy launched a new 15 day MOOC on Psychology of Learning on May 1, 2020. The programme is quickly conceptualized, synthesized and launched keeping in view the present scenario that demands the utilization of time while staying at home. The programme aims to equip the teaching fraternity with understanding the psychology aspects of learning from student's perspective. In his inaugural address, Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director briefed the importance of this course for teachers, faculty, trainers and others. He also indicated the success of earlier five MOOCs which is the precursor for the start sixth MOOC on Psychology of Learning.

The course was developed with a rich blend of videos, documents, presentations that are delivered through the NAARM eLearning portal. The learning resources were developed using Academy's the state of art facility called Technology Enhanced Learning Lab, which was established with the support of ICAR Education Division under Niche Area of Excellence. Besides the learning resources, the course facilitates learner activities and participation in online discussion forums followed by



final online evaluation. The entire programme is offered in online mode and final certification will be provided.

The MOOC received a record 1658 registrations that represent entire country and covering wide range of subject domains, thereby benefitting the larger audience and aiding in the effective time utilization while at home. The MOOC is offered through NAARM eLearning portal at <https://elearning.naarm.org.in>.

(Programme Directors: Drs. P Ramesh, GRK Murthy & S Senthil Vinayagam)

Webinar on "NAARM: Aid Your Agricultural Research through EBSCO Agricultural Plus Database"

The Academy in collaboration with EBSCO Information Services, Bangalore organized a webinar on "NAARM: Aid Your Agricultural Research Through EBSCO Agricultural Plus Database" on May 18, 2020. The objective of the webinar was to learn accessing agricultural research information through EBSCO agricultural plus database, basic and advanced search strategies, managing the content etc. A total of 22

participants from NAARM attended this program. The participants were exposed to EBSCO services, Agricultural Database, aid Agricultural Research through EBSCO database, content sharing etc. The training also impacts the usage pattern and improves the learning as well as the research development activities.

(Programme Director: Dr. N Srinivasa Rao)

Sensitization Workshop on "Implementation of Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) Regulations in Agriculture Research"

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, the Academy had organized the 2nd Awareness-cum-Sensitization Workshop on "Implementation of ABS regulation in agricultural research" during June 8-9, 2020 as a webinar in collaboration with Tamil Nadu Agriculture University, as a part of UNDP - Biotech

Consortium India Limited (BCIL) sponsored project. Dr. KS. Varaprasad, Former Director, IIOR, Hyderabad; Dr. KK Lal, Director, ICAR-NBFGF, Lucknow and experts from UNDP, ICAR institutions and National Biodiversity



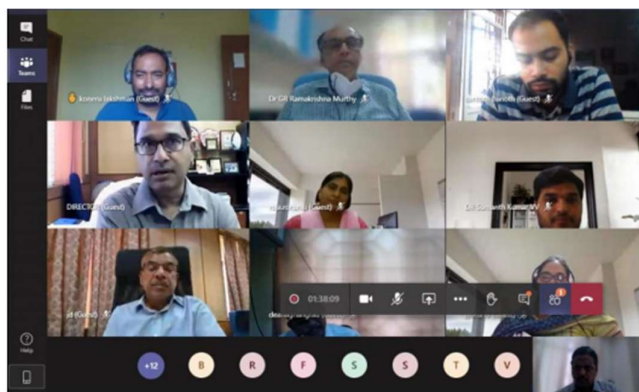
Authority (NBA), Chennai, served as the resource persons. Dr. Ruchi Pant, Head, NRM and Biodiversity emphasized the global significance of the subject in her inaugural address. The aim of the workshop was to enhance capacities of academic and research institutions in the public and private sector, assessing genetic resources to pursue research and transfer technology for better understanding the legal provisions and guidelines related to ABS.

There were over 50 participants comprising of researchers from NARES, especially those from crop sciences background. The training included practical exercise on ABS Process through group discussion (i.e. crops, horticulture and biotechnology), which facilitated the

participants in better understanding of ABS implementation, process, status and challenges with reference to agricultural research in India. The workshop also introduced the participants to the different types of ABS applications at the National Biodiversity Authority (NBA), which further complimented the legal understanding of the Biological Diversity Act through deliberations on the ABS handbook for researchers under preparation in UNDP.

(Programme Directors: Drs. K. Kareemulla, B. Ganesh Kumar & P Krishnan from ICAR-NAARM; Drs. S Geetha & D Suresh Kumar from TNAU)

Contemporary Education Technologies for Agricultural Education: Online Training Programme for ANGRAU Faculty



The Academy organised a training workshop on “Contemporary Education Technologies for Agricultural Education” using online mode during June 08-12, 2020 for 20 faculty members (from 6 campuses) of ANGRAU, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh. This was first of its initiative by the Academy to cater to the capacity building demands

through completely online mode in the area of online educational practices and protocols, duly considering the challenges faced due to Covid 19 scenario. Both the programme contents and delivery mode adopted for this online Workshop amply instilled confidence among the participants to gear up for digital and online learning. In his inaugural address, Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director highlighted the importance of online teaching methodologies in the new normal situation and urged the participants to implement the learnings of the immediately through e-learning portal created exclusively for them. Dr N Trimurtulu, Dean, ANGRAU and Dr SK. Soam, Joint Director emphasised the importance of capacity building in online learning practices in present times.

(Programme Directors: Drs. VV Sumanth Kumar, GRK Murthy & S Senthil Vinayagam)

Webinar on Breaking Myth of Science Communication

A Webinar on “Breaking Myths on Science Communication” on May 4, 2020 jointly with College of Dairy Science, Amreli, Kamdhenu University under National Agricultural Higher Education Project. About 45 faculty members of the university participated in the program. Dr. NH Kelawala, VC of the University and Dr. RC Agarwal, DDG (Education), ICAR complemented the University and NAARM for jointly taking this initiative during the lockdown and sensitizing the faculty members on the very relevant topic. Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, ICAR-NAARM highlighted the needs and issues in science communication. He also emphasized the need to remove the barriers in the minds of young researchers and acquire the basic skills for science communication. Dr. P Krishnan, Principal Scientist and the Lead Speaker dwelt



on the various myths in science communication in terms of structure of research papers, authorship, choice of journals, publication process, etc.

(Programme Directors: Drs. P Krishnan & SK Soam from NAARM; Dr. Ramani from Kamdhenu University)

Online Contact Sessions for PG Diploma on Education Technology Management



The Academy successfully completed the online contact sessions for one-year distance education program PG Diploma in Educational Technology and Management (PGDETM), during May 20-29, 2020. Addressing the participants in the inaugural session, Dr. Ch Srinivasa Rao, Director expressed the importance of formal

exposure to educational practices to become an effective teacher. Prof. Jeelani, Director, UoH wished all the participants to derive the maximum benefit of stay home contact sessions by interacting with the resource persons. The candidates from 14 different states participated in the sessions. The Academy provided complete capacity building in using the online methodology for participating in online classes, besides scheduling and managing the contact sessions. All the seven courses of the PGDETM programme involving eight resource persons with 28 hours of contact sessions were conducted online, thereby saving the resources and efforts of participants and continuing the academic calendar for the programme without any modification.

(Programme Directors: Drs. S Senthil Vinayagam, GRK Murthy & VV Sumanth Kumar)

Events

The Constitution of India: Preamble reading



International Yoga Day – 2020

The Academy celebrated the International Day of Yoga on June 21, 2020 with the theme “Yoga at Home and Yoga with Family”, as per the guidelines issued by Ministry of AYUSH, GoI. All the faculty members and officers were guided to perform yoga at home with family and share pictures. The details of warming-up exercises, protocol and guidelines for Yoga as issued by Ministry of AYUSH, GOI were circulated to all the employees of ICAR-NAARM. The NAARM staff members practiced the Yoga at home involving their family members in between 7.00 to 7.45 AM on June 21, 2020 alongside the Doordarshan live telecast. Glimpses of the yoga practiced by Director, NAARM and members of NAARM family are shown.



Preventive measures to contain the spread of COVID-19 in the campus

The Academy took several measures to combat the prevailing COVID-19 pandemic situation. Regular sanitization of all buildings in the office premises is being carried out. Frequent cleaning of all the touch materials in the office premises is done and sitting rooms of the faculty and other staff are being cleaned in the evening after the office hours. Hand sanitization by all the visitors and employees is advised while entering any of the office buildings and to facilitate sanitization, separate foot-operated hand sanitizers have been placed at the entrance of all the office buildings. Interiors of the office vehicles are disinfected regularly using 1% sodium hypochlorite spray. Outsiders entry into the premises is restricted and all the visitors including staff are subjected to thermal screening at the entrance gates before giving entry inside the campus. Generic preventive measures like maintaining mandatory distance in office premises, use of face masks, practice of frequent hand washing with soap and use of alcohol-based sanitizers are followed in the office premises. Standees on preventive measures are display at the entrance of all the office buildings for the information of employees. To avoid physical contact all the official meetings are done through video conferencing



using appropriate software. The Academy also provided the quarantine facility of 150 beds for the Govt. of Telangana State with all the required facilities like drinking water, additional parking area, continuous power and water supply. A questionnaire was also developed for implementation of 'Aarogyasetu', and actions have been taken for 100% implementation. The questionnaire is available at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/aarogyasetu_naarm/

e-Office implementation at NAARM

The Academy developed two case studies on implementation of eOffice and distributed these cases online with several email suggestions to staff of NAARM. Two physical trainings were also conducted (for 22 administrative and technical staff on 5th June and for 28 scientists and technical officers on June 9, 2020). Since June 15, 100% implementation of eOffice has taken place. The



Digital Signature Certificates were provided to 40% of staff member towards achieving paperless office.

Farm Activities during Lockdown Period

The essential duties in the farm unit continued during the lock down period by following social distancing and practicing shift system with mandatory use of face mask for all the staff and workers. The main activities carried



out during this quarter included watering the avenues, lawns, nursery potted plants, drip irrigation of fruit plants, rose garden, weeding and inter-cultivation, harvesting and sale of mango and sweet lime crops, trimming of lawns and hedge cutting, sowing of vegetable

and intercrops etc. Some of the new developments like construction of a rain water harvesting pond in the proposed Agri-biodiversity Park, installation of protective iron frame on the top of the open well of the farm, installation of electrical pump sets for irrigating plantations and gardens and repairing of the gate valves of the main irrigation pipeline leading to water reservoir.

Academy bags awards for Landscaping Works

The Academy participated in Garden Festival-2019 Conducted by the Department of Horticulture, Government of Telangana and bagged 'Best Landscaping Institute Award' (under central government institutions

The planting beds and surroundings of the water reservoir garden were cleaned to facilitate proposed lawn planting. As part of development and maintenance of the campus, several new initiatives have been taken like beautification of lawn near lake with carpet grass, shade grass lawn in front of Faculty Centre, beautification of footpaths from agronomy well to sports complex.

category) and 'Best Gardens Maintained Award' (under educational institute category). As a part of the selection process for awards, various committees visited the campus and evaluated.

Technology Demonstration Park at ICAR-NAARM

Pursuant to the recommendations of the 8th Research Advisory Committee and commitments made under the XII Plan EFC, efforts have been initiated towards setting up an exclusive Technology Demonstration Park in the Academy. The main objective of this initiative is to showcase agri and other technologies of ICAR to the trainees and other visitors to create awareness and interest in diffusing them further. With its serene and sprawling campus of about 50 ha, the Academy has provisions for adopting many diverse agri and other green technologies. Realizing this, through extensive site survey and consultations, the academy developed a detailed plan for documenting and cataloguing the technologies, introduce new technologies with emphasis on green technologies, and develop publicity material for showcasing the activities to trainees and other visitors. Currently, 25



technologies have been documented for display and showcasing, which are listed below.

Technologies	Details	Site
Integrated Nutrient Management	FYM, Vermicompost & fertilizers for nutrient use efficiency and improvement of soil and farm produce quality	Orchard plots
Integrated Pest Management	Insect traps, pheromones, Bio-agents	Sweet lime, mango, rose gardens
Integrated Weed Management	Power weeder / mulching	Rose garden, papaya, moringa
Integrated Farming Systems	Fish-duck based IFS	Water pond
Crop-diversification	Agro-forestry & Agro-horticulture systems	Orchards & plantations
Conservation of bio-diversity	Agri-biodiversity park	Near rear gate
Rain water harvesting	Rain water harvesting	Lake & farm pond
Lining of farm pond	Rain water conservation	Lake & farm pond
Micro-irrigation	Drip and sprinkler irrigation systems for water use efficiency	Orchard crops & Landscape gardens
Nutrient use efficiency	Placement of fertilizers/root zone application	Orchard plots
Pit management	Salinity reclamation	Rose garden/ sweet lime plot
Organic Mulching	Glyricidia/ Pongamia green leaf manuring	Orchard plots

Technologies	Details	Site
Land treatments	Ridge and furrow system for water conservation	Row crops/ vegetable crops
Roof water harvesting	Roof water harvesting pits/recharging ground water	Near office buildings
Solid waste management	Nutrient recycling	Vermi-composting units
Soil Health Cards	Site specific nutrient application	For orchards & floriculture crops
Medicinal & Aromatic Park	Medicinal & aromatic plants	Herbal Garden
High value crops	Floriculture- Rose garden (named varieties)	Rose garden
Coconut plantation	Floriculture block/ A-1 plot	Coconut orchard
Nutri-garden	Moringa, papaya, amla	H-7 plot
Protected cultivation	Ornamental plants, flower seedlings/ vegetable nursery	Naturally ventilated poly house
Farm Mechanization	Bush cutter, Telescopic tree pruner, power operated lawn mower, hedge cutter, power chain saw, rotavator, post hole digger, battery operated sprayer	Used in orchards & landscape gardens
Crop cultivars	High yielding/ disease tolerant varieties of fruit crops & rose varieties	Orchard/ rose plots
Plant propagation	Ornamental plant propagation & development of potted plants	Nursery
Organic garden	Vegetable crops	Kitchen garden in H.O.R

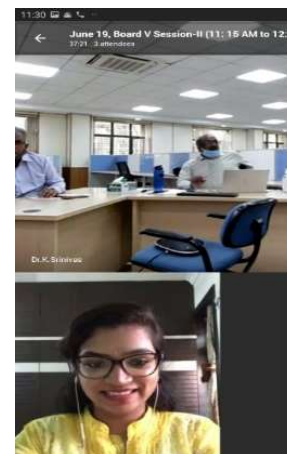
PGDMA News

Online process of admission for PGDMA 2020-22

Keeping in view the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic situation and travel restrictions in the country, the admission process for the AICTE-approved 12th batch of PGDM (Agri-Business Management) programme was conducted in online format. The selection criteria followed during the admission included CAT/CMAT Score (40%),



Online Personal Interview (20%), Online Analytical Writing Skill Test (20%), Work Experience (10%) and Academic Score (10%). The personal interview in online mode was conducted for more than 500 candidates during 15-20 June, 2020. The results were declared on 27th June, 2020. The details can be accessed at <https://naarm.org.in/pgdma/>.



a-IDEA News

a-IDEA inks MoU with NABARD

a-IDEA signed an MoU with NABARD and obtained 6.4 crore scaling-up grant to the entrepreneurial development project to be run by a-IDEA under Gramya Vikas Nidhi which is being dealt by Off-farm Development Department of NABARD. Subsequently, a virtual meeting was held on June 22, 2020 jointly chaired by the Director, ICAR-NAARM and CGM-OFDD, NABARD, Mumbai. It was decided to form an a-IDEA-NAARM and

NABARD joint council for dealing with strategic issues. The Committee will be chaired by the Director, ICAR-NAARM with CGM-OFDD, NABARD, Mumbai; CGM-OFDD, NABARD, Hyderabad; JD, NAARM; Dr. S Senthil Vinayagam, NAARM; Dr. VV Sumanth Kumar, NAARM; Dr. PD Srikanth, NAARM; Mr. Ravi Narasimham, Caspian Impact Investment Ltd. and CEO, a-IDEA as members.

NIDHI PRAYAS Launched

a-IDEA launched first call inviting innovators working on Idea/POC/Prototype in the field of agriculture and allied sectors to apply for “NIDHI PRAYAS” grant up to INR 10 Lakhs. The focus areas of NIDHI PRAYAS are IoT, ICAR application in agriculture, precision/smart agriculture, innovative food technology, supply chain technology, postharvest technology, soil, water and weather

technology, urban/verticle farming/ agriculture fintech, agriculture biotech, farm mechanization, sustainable inputs, animal husbandry, fisheries and farm fresh retail. Last date of application is July 18, 2020.



Series of Webinars

a-IDEA organized 9 Webinars during the quarter on various topics from sector specific to AMA sessions for startups, finance and legal issues. The sectors covered during these programmes included aquaculture, dairy, research in agri sector and transfer of technology,

medicinal and aromatic entrepreneurs and AMA for ABIs. These webinars were attended by more than 500 participants and the feedback on content and selection of resource persons was very encouraging.

Topic	Speakers	Date
Sustainable Income for farmers in post COVID scenario using financial tools	Dr. K Srinivas, a-IDEA-NAARM Sh. Hemendra Mathur, BIF Sh. Ashish, Whrrl Sh. Hari Rajgopal, Samunathi Finance Sh. Kiran K P, IndusInd bank	April 18, 2020
AMA Session with Angel Investor Sh. Naga Prakasam	Sh. Naga Prakasam Dr. K Srinivas	April 23, 2020
Aquaculture sector during and Post COVID times	Dr. K. Srinivas, a-IDEA-NAARM Sh. Kiriti Madina, Robic Rufarm Dr. T. Ravi Shankar, ICAR-CIBA Sh. Akshay Verma, Chandu Probocts	May 20, 2020
Tackling Dairy sector amid COVID times	Sh. Babbar Singh, Delmos Dr. Ashish Singh, NDRI Dr. Ranjit Kumar, NAARM Sh. Kuldeep Sharma, Think Dairy	May 23, 2020
Legal Issues during and after COVID-19 in startup sector	Sh. Raviprasad Pisupati, Tempus Law Associates Ms. Sundari R Pisupati, Tempus Law Associates	May 26, 2020
Approaches of Public funded research organizations in Agri-technology generation and its transfer in New Normal situation	Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, ICAR-NAARM Dr. Sanjiv Saxena, ADG (IP&TM) ICAR Dr. Sudha Mysore, CEO, AgIn Sh. Neeraj Khaturia, Indexces	May 28, 2020
AMA Session for ABI's of ICAR	Dr. K. Srinivas, a-IDEA-NAARM	June 3, 2020
Scope of Medicinal & Aromatic crops Sector in Present & Future Scenario	Ms. Meenal Sharma, Mystic Aura Sh. Amandeep Panwar, BharatRohan Dr. Alka Dangash, AGM IPCA Lab Dr. Alok Kalra, Ex Director, CIMAP	June 8, 2020
Startups in Animal Husbandry: present and future	Sh. Vasant Kamath, HydroGreens. Sh. Priyank Saxena, Agverse Dr. Mahesh Chander	June 10, 2020

Faculty Achievements

Honours, Awards and Recognitions

Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao is nominated as Member ICAR Committee on Agricultural Research Service (2020-22).

Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao is nominated as Member, Academic Councils of Professor Jayashankar Telangana State Agricultural University, (PJTSAU), Hyderabad and Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh.

Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao participated as a Government of India Delegation Member in Virtual UNFCCC June Momentum for Climate Change held during June 1 – 10, 2020.



Dr. MB Dastagiri was awarded with International Iconic Achievement Award 2020 for Intellectual People for outstanding achievements and remarkable role in the field of education given by Economic Growth Foundation, New Delhi.

Publications

Research Articles

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Balakrishnan M & Meena K. (2020). Coconut yield prediction using back propagation and Split algorithm in Bay Islands. *CLIO an Annual Interdisciplinary Journal of History*. 06(2) pp.549-557.

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- Ravi KN, Sontakki BS, Shimray PW, Mansuri SM, Verma S, Kiran-Kumar TM, Gurjar B, Naik V and Tegelli R. (2020). Field Experience Training: Pragmatic Multidisciplinary Approach for Developing Comprehensive Village Development Action Plan. *Indian Research Journal of Extension Education*. 20 (1): 21-26.
- Rocktim RD, Deepak-Samuel V, Goutham S, Krishnan P, Purvaja, R, Ramesh R. (2020). The windowpane oyster family Placunidae Rafinesque, 1815 with additional description of *Placuna quadrangula* (Philipsson, 1788) from India. *Journal of Threatened Taxa*. 11(15): 15061–15067.
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- Sumanth Kumar VV & Praneetha Y, Padmaja B & Lakshmana Murthy G. (2020). Cloud powered Plant Image Warehouse, *Oriental Journal of Computer Science and Technology*. 13(1): 44-49
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Ajay Kumar E, Bharat S Sontakki, Md Mifta Faizullah and Pandit Vaibhav Bhagwan. (2020). Impact of Soil Health Card Scheme: Lessons from selected success stories in southern India. *Indian Farmer*. 7 (04): 361-367

Kumar VVS, Yannam P & Thakur D. CRM Software for Small and Medium Agro enterprises. Retrieved from agrixiv.org/p3rkn.

Kumar VVS., Yannam P, B R, & G LM. AgAcademy: A modal platform for scaling up e-learning in Indian Agriculture in covid times. Retrieved from agrixiv.org/hjpxz.

Radio/ TV talk/ Video talk

Speaker & topic	Channel and program
Srinivasa Rao, Ch. (2020). News coverage about the ICAR Policy Paper on Re-imagining Higher Agricultural Education in India on the Face of Challenge from COVID-19 Pandemic – Strategies for Adapting to the New Normal. Eenadu daily newspaper dated 25-6-2020.	Eenadu daily newspaper dated 25-6-2020.

Faculty / Staff Participation in Online Scientific Events

Programme Name	Organizer	Date	Scientist Name
ICAR Directors’ Meeting	ICAR, New Delhi	Apr 10, 2020	Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao
ICAR SOC Meetings	ICAR, New Delhi	Apr 22, 2020	
CGIAR Review Meeting		May 6, 2020	
		Jun 9, 2020	
		May 4, 2020	

Programme Name	Organizer	Date	Scientist Name
Meeting with DG, ICAR	ICAR, New Delhi	May 7, 2020	
Discussion on BIOFIN Project		May 8, 2020	
Special Invitee for the Technical Session II - Crop Production of the Virtual 55 th Annual Rice Group Meeting (ARGM)	IIRR, Hyderabad	May 12, 2020	
Meeting Chaired by Hon'ble Secretary, DARE and DG, ICAR along with ADGs, SMD Heads, DDGs, Directors of NAARM, IASRI and NIAEPR to discuss on Revamping of ICAR Website	ICAR, New Delhi	May 13, 2020	
12 th Meeting of Academic Council of PJTSAU, Hyderabad		May 27, 2020	
UNFCCC Delegation Meeting		May 28, 2020	
Panelist for the Webinar on Approaches of Public funded Research Organizations in Agri-technology generation and its transfer in New Normal situation	a-Idea, NAARM	May 28, 2020	
21 st Meeting of Board of Management of PJTSAU, Hyderabad	PJTSAU, Hyderabad	May 29, 2020	
Momentum for Climate Change - UNFCCC Global Climate Change Negotiations -Agriculture Session as Government of India Delegation Member	NAAS	Jun 1-10, 2020	
Webinar Panel Discussion on "Covid-19: Impacts and New Normal in Agriculture"		Jun 5, 2020	
Chief Guest for the Valedictory Session of the Online Course on "SciCom for Smart Scholars"	ICAR-CIFE, Mumbai & NAHEP-CAAST Project	Jun 11, 2020	
Meeting chaired by Member Secretary, NDMA with the Officers of Department of Agriculture Cooperation and Farmers' Welfare regarding approval of National Agriculture Disaster Management Plan (NADMP)	NDMA New Delhi	Jun 11, 2020	
Meeting on "Impact of National Agricultural Research System"	NAAS	Jun 15, 2020	
293 rd Meeting of Board of Management of ANGRAU	ANGRAU	Jun 18, 2020	
112 th Meeting of Executive Council of NAAS	NAAS	Jun 19, 2020	
Presentation of newly elected Fellows, 2020 of NAAS as part of the Annual General Body Meeting – Sections: Crop Sciences and Horticultural Sciences	NAAS	Jun 22, 2020	
Presentation of newly elected Fellows, 2020 of NAAS as part of the Annual General Body Meeting - Sections: Natural Resource Management and Plant Protection	NAAS	Jun 24, 2020	
ICAR Directors' Meeting under the chairmanship of Addl. Secretary, DARE & Secretary, ICAR to discuss on implementation of e-office in ICAR institutes	ICAR, New Delhi	Jun 24, 2020	
ICAR Directors' Meeting under the Chairmanship of Addl. Secretary, DARE & Secretary, ICAR to discuss issues related to ICAR Bye-laws	ICAR, New Delhi	Jun 26, 2020	
Meeting with Member Secretary, National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), wherein the Draft National Agricultural Disaster Management Plan (NADMP), prepared by the Working Group was presented.	IDM, New Delhi	Jun 11, 2020	Dr. Ch. Srinivasarao & Dr. P. Krishnan

Programme Name	Organizer	Date	Scientist Name
ITMC of ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad	ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad	Jun 09, 2020	Dr. SK Soam
State Level Technical Program (SLTP) of Agricultural Engineering program of ANGRAU (As External Expert)	ANGRAU, Guntur	Jun 5-6, 2020	Dr. GRK Murthy

Glimpses of Scientific Events attended by Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, ICAR-NAARM



Virtual ICAR SOC Meeting held on May 6, 2020



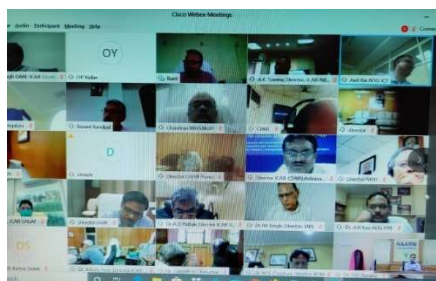
Special Invitee in the Technical Session on Crop Production of the Virtual 55th Annual Rice Group Meeting, organized by ICAR-IIRR, Hyderabad on May 12, 2020.



Interacting with DG, ICAR on May 7, 2020



Expert talk on "ICTs for Agribusiness Management" in National Webinar on "Post Covid-19 Agribusiness: Challenges and Opportunities" organized by JAU, Junagadh, on June 14, 2020



ICAR Directors Meeting chaired by Addl. Secretary, DARE & Secretary, ICAR to discuss related to ICAR Bye-laws on June 26, 2020



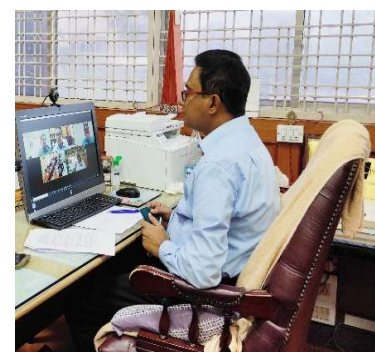
Virtual Meeting on Impact of NARS, organized by NAAS on June 14, 2020



Making presentation at the Webinar on 'Biochar: Potential availability, Usefulness and Limitation for use in Indian Agriculture' organized by ICAR-IISS, Bhopal on June 19, 2020.



Participating in 112th Virtual Meeting of Executive Council of NAAS held on June 19, 2020.



Virtual Meeting of 293rd Meeting of Board of Management of ANGRAU, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh on June 18, 2020

Invited as key speaker in Virtual Scientific meetings/ Webinars

Faculty	Topic	Event	Organiser	Date
Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao	Restarting Agriculture Post COVID and Gearing for Kharif, 2020: Challenges and Way Forward	Virtual Session on 'Restarting Agriculture Post Covid & Gearing up for Khariff'	Confederation of Indian Industry, Telangana	May 2, 2020
	Science Communication - Myths or any related topic as first expert speaker	Webinar on 'Breaking Myths of Science Communication' under NAHEP,	College of Dairy Science, Amreli, Gujarat	May 4, 2020
	Women-friendly Agriculture Policy Development	Webinar on 'Effective Policy Paper Writing for Women in Agriculture'	ICAR-CIWA, Bhubaneswar	May 27, 2020
	Reforms needed in Agri Higher Education in Post Covid Era	National Webinar on "Challenges, Opportunities and Future of Agri and Allied Research and Education: Post Covid Era"	All India Agricultural Students Association	May 30, 2020
	ICTs for Agribusiness Management	National Webinar on "Post Covid-19 Agribusiness: Challenges and Opportunities"-	JAU, Junagadh	Jun 14, 2020
	Biochar in Dryland Agro-ecosystem for Climate Change Mitigation and Sustainability	Webinar on 'Biochar: Potential availability, Usefulness and Limitation for use in Indian Agriculture'	ICAR-IISS, Bhopal	Jun 19, 2020
Dr. SK Soam	Research project formulation and outcome management	National Workshop 'Research Methodology: Concepts and Applications'	MPUAT, Udaipur	Jun 26-27, 2020
Dr. Ranjit Kumar	Essentials of Agripreneurship	Webinar under Agri-Business Incubator Project	ICAR Research Complex for Eastern Region, FSRC for Hill & Plateau Region, Ranchi	May 27, 2020
	Tackling dairy sector amid COVID times	Lecture Series	a-IDEA, NAARM	May 23, 2020
	eNAM: Preparedness, Opportunities and Challenges	Webinar on "eNAM: Challenges and Prospects" under NAHEP-CAAST	Anand Agricultural University, Anand	Jun 10, 2020
Dr. Surya Rathore	Impact Evaluation	International Webinar series on Emerging Trends in Extension and Social Sciences Research	CAU, Imphal in collaboration with ICAR – NAARM, Hyderabad & CTCRI, Thiruvananthapuram	Jun 16, 2020
Dr. GRK Murthy	E Learning- MOOCs and OER	Guest lecture	College of fisheries, CAU, Imphal	May 28, 2020

Faculty	Topic	Event	Organiser	Date
Dr. S Senthil Vinayagam	Competency enhancement in digital teaching; Project Appraisal Analysis	National Training Course (NTC-2020)	National Agricultural Development Cooperative limited	Jun 10-11, 2020
Dr. P. Krishnan	Breaking Myths in Science Communication	NAHEP Sponsored 14-days Virtual Training on, "Science Communication (Sci-Com) for Smart Scientists"	CIFE, Mumbai (Webinar)	May-Jun, 2020
Dr. Bharat S Sontakki	Emerging trends in Social Sciences Research with specific reference to research in agricultural and rural extension	International Webinar series on Emerging Trends in Extension and Social Sciences Research	CAU, Imphal in collaboration with ICAR – NAARM, Hyderabad & CTCRI, Thiruvananthapuram	Jun 10, 2020
Dr. Manju Gerard	Health and Environmental Protection during Pandemic Outbreak of COVID-19	Webinar	Department of Chemistry, SHUATS, Prayagraj	Jun 25-26, 2020
	New Approaches of Public funded research organizations in agri technology generation and its transfer in new normal situation	Webinar	aIDEA, NAARM	May 28, 2020
Dr. M Balakrishnan	Emerging trends in data science and its applications	National workshop (Webinar) on Emerging trends in data science and its applications,	Department of Physical Sciences, Kasturba Gandhi PG College for Women, Secunderabad	May 23, 2020
Dr. K Srinivas	Agriculture startups	Webinar	i-Hub, Gujarat Govt.	May 15, 2020
Mr. Vijay Nadiminti	How to build sustainable startups- Dos and Don'ts	Webinar	BFGI, Punjab	Apr 17, 2020
	Idea to POC how to approach early stage grants to students	Webinar	E Yuva Center, TNAU	Apr 26, 2020

Staff News

Appointments/ Joinings

- Dr. Purru Supriya, Scientist (Agricultural Bioinformatics) joined the Academy w.e.f. 04.04.2020 on her posting after completion of 110 FOCARS

Promotions

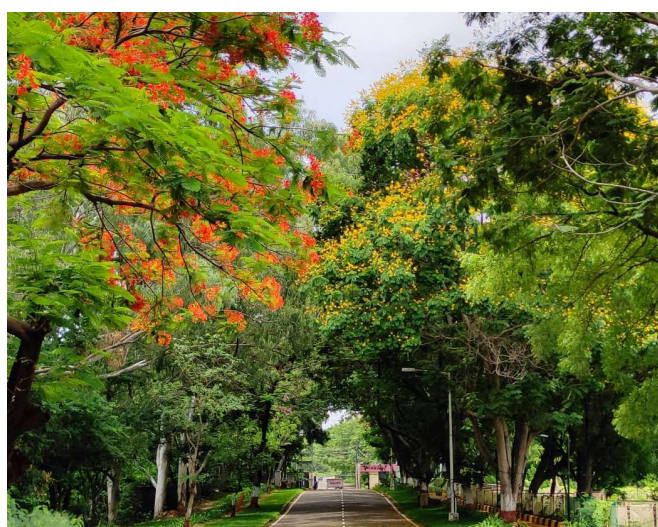
- Dr. K.R. Ghanshyam, Assistant has been appointed as Assistant Administrative Officer on promotion w.e.f. 24.06.2020 (FN).

Retirement/ Superannuation

- Shri K. Obulapathi, Technical Officer (Technician Electrical) superannuated w.e.f. 30.04.2020 (AN)
- Shri C. Muralidharan, Joint Director (Admn.) & Registrar superannuated w.e.f. 30.06.2020 (AN)
- Shri Dasaratha Gajjala, Skilled Support Staff superannuated w.e.f. 30.06.2020 (AN)

Upcoming Events

Event	Date
Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) on Designing E Learning Content	Jul 1-31, 2020
Training Programme on "Teaching Competency Enhancement" for Faculty of SKL Telangana State Horticulture University (online mode)	Jul 07-9, 2020
Training Programme on "Stress Management" (online mode)	Jul 7-10, 2020
MDP on Implementation of Access and Benefit Sharing Regulations in Agriculture Research: Awareness cum Sensitization Workshop (online mode)	Jul 7-10, 2020
MDP for Master Trainers on Access and Benefit Sharing Regulations in India and the Nagoya Protocol (online mode)	Jul 15-16, 2020
Implementation of Access & Benefit Sharing Regulations to Technical officers of State Biodiversity Boards (online mode)	Jul 24-25, 2020
EDP on Implementation of Access & Benefit Sharing Regulations to Top Executives of ICAR (online mode)	Jul 27-28, 2020
Training Programme on Analysis of Experimental Data using R (online mode)	Aug 05-11, 2020
Training Workshop for Vigilance Officers of ICAR Institutes (online mode)	Aug 05-07, 2020
PRA Communication for IFS Officers of 2020-22 Batch from IGNOU, Dehradun (online mode)	Aug 12-14, 2020
MDP on Intellectual Property Valuation and Technology Management (online mode)	Aug 17-21, 2020
Training Programme on Developing Winning Research Proposals (DWRP) in Agricultural Research (online mode)	Aug 25-29, 2020
Training Workshop on Education Management and Academic Leadership (sponsored under NAHEP) (online mode)	Sep 03-08, 2020
Innovative practices in Extension Research and Evaluation (online mode)	Sep 08-28, 2020
Training on Advanced Bioinformatics Tools and its Applications in Agriculture (online mode)	Sep 14-19, 2020
Executive Development Program (EDP) on Leadership Development (online mode)	Sep 17-22, 2020
Communication and Management skills for Extension Personnel (online mode)	Oct 01-21, 2020
Sustainable Management of Small Scale Seed Enterprises (online mode)	Oct 05-09, 2020
MDP on PME in Agricultural Research Projects (online mode)	Oct 13-17, 2020



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