

Advisor K K Sharma interacts with Scientists, varsity administration at SKUAST-Jammu.



Sh. K.K. Sharma Advisor to Hon'ble Governor, today visited Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (SKUAST), Jammu and held an interactive session with the scientists, senior functionaries of the University and development departments. At the outset, Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-Jammu, Dr. K S Risam gave a detailed brief about the achievements made by the University during two decades which inter alia includes advances in the arena of Research, Education and Extension. Dr. Risam apprised the Advisor about the recent initiatives in the field of medicinal and aromatic plants, dry land agriculture, doubling the income of farmers and training of rural women. He emphasized on the need of the establishment of new KVKs in the district of Udhampur, Ramban and Kishtwar besides establishment of Faculty of Dairy Technology, Faculty of Agricultural Engineering and Division of Seed Sciences for which lot of progress has already been made.

Advisor Sh K.K. Sharma stressed that there should be harmonious coordination between Agricultural University and various line departments as both are striving for development of the farmers. He emphasized that the farmers be aware on the concept of Irrigation and water use efficiency, as they need awareness about the innovative methods, techniques and management on irrigation water use. He suggested that the University should organize workshops/ programmes on efficient irrigation water use. He also pointed out the need for distribution of quality seed for major crops. He further added that

the University may undertake study and research on zero budget farming and organic farming for the benefit of farmers. He stated that the J&K State imports livestock and livestock products to the tune of about Rs. 2000 crore per year from the neighboring states so there is ample opportunity available within the state for developing livestock.

The Advisor appreciated the efforts put in by the University for development of agriculture in the region and encouraged that the KVKs of the University shall extend their reach to the unreached farmers. He emphasized the need to publish a bi-monthly / tri-monthly magazine in vernacular language and make available the copies of the same to every Gram Panchayat of the region. He also suggested developing a Mobile App accessible to the farmers of the region with requisite information regarding crop production, market management linkages, disease diagnostics and management.

The Advisor Sh. K.K. Sharma, also took a round of the campus and visited Baba Jitto auditorium and School of Biotechnology and interacted with students and Scholars. He took stock of the academic and research facilities developed in the School which includes Rice Molecular Laboratory for Improvement of Basmati Rice, Heavy Instruments Lab., High End Instrumentation Desk, Tissue Culture Facility and Genomics Laboratory focusing on marker assisted gene pyramiding for disease resistance in crops operational at School of Biotechnology.

Earlier, Director Research, Dr. J P Sharma, gave a power point presentation highlighting various activities / achievements of the University since its inception in the year 1999. Others functionaries of the University/ departments present on the occasion were Director Agriculture, P.S. Rathore, Director Sheep Husbandry Dr. Sanjeev Kumar, Joint Director Animal Husbandry Dr. Suresh Kohli, Director Planning & Monitoring, Dr. Deepak Kher, Dean Faculty of Agriculture, Dr. D P Abrol, Dean FVSc & AH, Dr. M M S Zama, Dean Basic Sciences, Dr. S E H Rizvi, Dean Student Welfare, Dr. Rajesh

Katoch, Er. Iqbal Singh, Estates, Officer, Dr. R. Peshin, Dr. Sushil K. Sharma, Dr. Manish K. Sharma, Dr. R.K. Salgotra, Coordinator, School of Biotechnology.