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Agri Tribune

Newsletter



SKUAST JAMMU

Sher-e-Kashmir
University of Agricultural Sciences & Technology of Jammu

www.skuast.org



Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Jammu

Greetings from SKUAST-Jammu

Agriculture is vital to India's economic and food security, and with the challenges posed by rising demand, climate change, and environmental pressures, transforming our agri-food systems into sustainable enterprises is essential for future generations. At SKUAST-Jammu, we are embracing innovations—from digital and vertical farming to biotechnology and organic practices to revolutionize food production and consumption. Since our inception in 1999, SKUAST-Jammu has worked toward becoming a “Knowledge and innovation hub.” Our dedicated team's efforts have earned us the 20th position in the NIRF ranking for agriculture and allied sectors, indicating our commitment to academic excellence, research, innovation and entrepreneurship development.



With cutting-edge facilities and a focus on sustainability, our team is poised to achieve breakthroughs that will position India and particularly the Jammu region as a leader in global agricultural production. On behalf of the entire SKUAST-Jammu family, I assure you that we are committed to addressing the diverse needs of both the large underprivileged farming community and the industrious, educated, and tech-savvy individuals.

I congratulate the entire team for the third issue of the Agri-Tribune Newsletter, highlighting key events and activities from July-September 2024.

I also thank all readers for their continued interest in SKUAST-Jammu's journey. Together, we are building a stronger foundation for agricultural education, research, and extension.

Best wishes,

30th September 2024

(B. N. Tripathi)
Vice-Chancellor

“An agricultural Institution for sustainable food, nutrition and economic security”

Notable Highlights

SKUAST-Jammu's Strong Performance in NIRF 2024 Rankings

In the 2024 National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) results, Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Jammu (SKUAST-Jammu) made a commendable entry into the rankings, securing the 20th position in the Agriculture and Allied Sectors category. This achievement highlights SKUAST-Jammu's commitment to academic excellence, research, and its role in advancing agricultural education in the region. Lieutenant Governor Hon'ble Shri Manoj Sinha Ji has also extended heartiest congratulations to the Vice Chancellor, faculty and staff of the university for securing impressive ranking in agriculture and allied sectors. Vice Chancellor Dr B N Tripathi showed his satisfaction with the performance of the university and congratulated to each one for getting the university ranking at 20th place in Agriculture and Allied Sector (slot) in prestigious NIRF ranking. He emphasized the collective effort and expressed optimism about further enhancing the university's standing in the coming years, aiming to reach new heights of excellence and success.

This recognition from NIRF not only boosts the university's reputation but also opens up opportunities for attracting more students, faculty, and research funding. It underscores the university's potential to contribute significantly to the agricultural sector and the broader educational landscape in the region. As SKUAST-Jammu continues to build on this momentum, it aims to further elevate its standing in the national rankings in the years to come.

Focus on Industry-Academia Collaboration for Achieving Objectives of Viksit Bharat

SKUAST-Jammu organized an Industry-Academia Meet on July 10th to explore and integrate industrial training with academic learning, promoting technological advancement and innovation in agriculture. Principal Secretary of Agriculture Production Department, Shri Shailendra Kumar, served as the chief guest, urging collaboration through MoUs, entrepreneurship development, and Corporate Social Responsibility to achieve Viksit Bharat's goals. He commended the university's role in fostering a supportive ecosystem for young innovators. Prof. B.N. Tripathi, Vice Chancellor of SKUAST-Jammu and chairman of the meet, emphasized the importance of Industry-Academia collaboration to prepare students for future challenges. He expressed gratitude to United Phosphorus Limited and Fill Industry Limited for signing MoUs with the university and encouraged further partnerships to drive agricultural development and farmer support. Prof. Tripathi

highlighted the value of industry expertise in addressing farmers' needs through innovation and feedback-driven research. Panel discussions focussed on strengthening education and research through industry partnerships. Dr. Rajinder Peshin presented on the university's



achievements and future opportunities, while Dr. Ram Kumar from Asia Population Development Lead Corteva, Hyderabad delivered a lead lecture. Company representatives expressed their commitment to supporting entrepreneurs and Start-ups, with exhibits and technologies displayed by Start-Ups, companies, and the university. Dr. Sanjay Guleria, was the organising secretary of the meet and the event was attended by statutory officers, faculty, and students.



Agriculture Education Fair: An Exposure Programme for School Students

Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Jammu organised an "Agriculture Education Exposure Programme for School Students" under the National Agricultural Higher Education Project, commemorating the university's silver jubilee year. The event was held under the patronage of the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Prof. B.N. Tripathi. The Chief Guest for the occasion was Dr. R. C. Agrawal, Deputy Director General (DDG) of Agricultural Education, ICAR, and the Guest of Honour was Dr. Umesh Rai, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Jammu. An exhibition was also organized during the fair, displaying various

agricultural technologies and innovations developed by the university.



The primary objective of the programme was to provide school students with hands-on exposure to advancements in agriculture and to inspire interest in agricultural education and careers. More than 600 students from schools such as Army Public School Satwari, Government Higher Secondary School Bhour Camp, Army Public School Miran Sahib, Police Public School Miran Sahib, Govt. Girls Higher Secondary School Miran Sahib, Stephan International School R.S. Pura, KV School Miran Sahib, and K.V No. 1 Gandhi Nagar participated in the event.



The event saw active participation from all statutory officers, division heads, faculty members, non-teaching staff, and students of SKUAST-J, creating a platform for knowledge exchange and fostering future interest in the agricultural sciences among the younger generation.



AgriThon 2024 concluded with an award ceremony, marking the end of the competition

NAHEP-IDP, SKUAST-Jammu organized AgriThon - 2024 an innovative event that blended students, academicians & innovators to ideate & process the concept of precision and economical farming for the future of agriculture. The event provided a one of its kind platforms to the students of higher education institutes in the UTs of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh to showcase their innovative approaches & technology solutions in four thematic areas: Livestock, dairying, poultry & fish farming; Crop &



horticulture farming; Farm mechanization & automation; and post-harvest, value addition, supply chain & logistics. The event, which began in June 2024 and concluded with an award ceremony on 29th August 2024. A total of 214 teams (856 participants) from Jammu, Kashmir, and Ladakh participated. The event had two stages: submission and screening of concept notes, followed by final presentations before a panel of experts. Of 70 qualifying entries, 19 awards were presented on August 29, 2024, across the four themes to recognize innovative ideas. Teams Theme I (Innovations in Livestock, Dairying, Poultry & Fish Farming) with 4 awards, Theme II (Innovations in Crop and Horticulture Farming) with 6 awards, Theme III (Innovations in Farm Mechanization, Digital Agriculture & Automation) with 5 awards, and Theme IV (Innovations in Post-Harvest, Value Addition, Supply Chain & Logistics) with 4 awards.

SKUAST-Jammu Releases First-Ever Newsletter "Agri Tribune"

Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology Jammu proudly launched its first-ever quarterly newsletter, *Agri Tribune*, during the Agri Fair held on 29th August 2024 under the chairmanship of Dr B N Tripathi, HVC of the SKUAST Jammu. The



Newsletter aims to highlight key developments in agriculture, research breakthroughs, education and extension as well student achievements at the university. DDG Education, ICAR, Dr RC Agrawal along with Vice-Chancellor, Jammu university unveiled the inaugural issue, commending the efforts of the editorial team and emphasizing the importance of such platforms in promoting knowledge sharing and innovation. Faculty and students of the university warmly welcomed this new initiative.

Workshop on Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)

SKUAST-Jammu hosted a one-day workshop on July 18, 2024, on Intellectual Property Rights at its main campus



in Chatha, Jammu. Prof. B.N. Tripathi, Vice Chancellor of SKUAST-Jammu, served as the Chief Guest, while Dr. Neeru Bhooshan, ADG (IP & TM) at ICAR, New Delhi, was the Guest of Honour. Expert lectures were delivered by Dr Neeru Bhooshan, Dr. Pinky Chakraborty, a Patent Associate from United & United, New Delhi, Ms. Bhoomika, an Advocate and Associate from United & United, New Delhi, Mr. Manik Gupta, Director (Operations) and Patent Facilitator at J&K High Court, and Dr R.K. Salgotra, Director of IBT and Nodal Officer of the TM&IPR Cell at SKUAST-Jammu. The workshop was attended by all the university' statutory officers, heads of divisions, faculty members, and a large number of students.

Brainstorming Meet on National Education Policy 2020 focussing on Agriculture Education

SKUAST Jammu organized a brainstorming session on National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, focusing on agricultural education. Dr. R. C. Agrawal, DDG Education, ICAR, New Delhi, was the Chief Guest, and Dr. W. S. Lakra, Secretary, NAAS, was the Guest of Honour. Dr. Agrawal emphasized a multidisciplinary approach and collaboration across disciplines, including medical sciences, to link agriculture to the health sector. He assured that the ICAR 6th Deans' Committee report, reflecting NEP 2020, will be implemented from the 2024-

25 academic session. Hon'le Vice Chancellor, Dr. B. N. Tripathi, highlighted SKUAST Jammu' phased



implementation of NEP 2020, noting a 20% increase in enrolment and a target of 3000 students by 2030. He also mentioned the university's active placement cell, international help desk, and agribusiness incubation center.

Experts, including Vice Chancellors and Deans from various agricultural/ veterinary universities, discussed the need for enhanced infrastructure, funding, and stringent regulatory mechanisms to ensure the quality of agricultural education. Dr. Rajinder Peshin, Director of Education, presented key suggestions from SKUAST-Jammu and ten agendas for NEP 2020 implementation. The session provided a platform for stakeholders to share their insights and suggestions for effective implementation of NEP 2020 in agricultural education institutes. The session was attended by university officers, faculty, and students, facilitated valuable discussions on the future of agricultural education.



Alumni Meet 2024

SKUAST-Jammu hosted its 2024 alumni meet at the main campus, Chatha, with around 200 participants in attendance. The event featured inspiring speeches, heartfelt reunions, and celebrations of the remarkable achievements of the university's alumni. Prof. B.N.

Tripathi, Vice Chancellor of SKUAST-Jammu and alumni chair, served as the Chief Guest. In his address, he encouraged attendees to look to the future with optimism while celebrating the past and present. He also highlighted the university's growth from two faculties to six, with 1,900 students currently enrolled. The event began with a welcome address by Dr. Sudhakar Dwivedi, DSW and Coordinator of the meet. Other speakers included Dr. Rajinder Peshin, Director Education and Co-Chair; Dr. S.K. Gupta, Director Research; Dr. Anil Kumar, Registrar; and Dr. Rehana Akhtar Bijli, Personal Officer, GMC. Alumni shared their experiences and suggestions for strengthening the alumni association.

The meet was convened by Dr. Vikas Sharma, P.I. NAHEP-IDP, and coordinated by Dr. Parshant Bakshi, Dr. Vivek M. Arya, and Dr. Anil Bhat. The vote of thanks was delivered by Dr. Parshant Bakshi, Head of the Division of Fruit Science.



SKUAST-Jammu Celebrated 26th Foundation Day, Showcasing its Journey to Global Recognition



Dwivedi, Dean of Student Welfare and Organizer of the event. Dr. B.N. Tripathi, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of SKUAST-Jammu, delivered the Presidential address, congratulating all employees and students for their contributions to the university's success. He highlighted the university's growth from just two faculties to six, along with the addition of an Institute of Biotechnology, research stations, and

increasing population, projected to reach 166 million by 2047. Dr. R.S. Chandel praised SKUAST-Jammu for its achievements in developing high-quality crop varieties and fostering innovation through its startup ecosystem. Several awards were presented in recognition of excellence. The event also saw the release of several publications, including books on topics such as the Kisan Credit Card, Soil Physical Properties, Rooftop Farming, and Dairy Farming. The day concluded with cultural performances by students, including dance, singing, and Bhangra, adding vibrancy to the event followed by vote of thanks by Dr. Anil Kumar, Registrar & Dean FoA.

SKUAST-Jammu celebrated its 26th Foundation Day, marking its remarkable journey since its establishment in 1999 to becoming a nationally and internationally recognized institution. The event featured esteemed guests, including Dr. T.R. Sharma, Deputy Director General (DDG), Crop Science, ICAR, as Chief Guest, and Dr. R.S. Chandel, Vice Chancellor of Dr. Y.S. Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry, Solan, as Guest of Honour. The event commenced with a welcome address by Dr. Sudhakar



KVKs. In his Foundation Day lecture on "Innovation in Crop Science," Dr. T.R. Sharma emphasized the importance of developing climate-resilient crop varieties to address the challenge of feeding an



SKUAST-Jammu Celebrated 78th Independence Day with Grand Tiranga Rally and Cultural Events

the presentation of Best Employee Awards in various categories by the Vice Chancellor. The celebrations continued with a cultural program performed by students, employee wards, and members of the university's ladies club.

During his address, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor spoke about the historical journey to independence, highlighted the achievements of the university, and urged all employees and students to contribute to the overall development and progress of both the nation and the institution.



On the eve of the 78th Independence Day, Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Jammu organized a grand Tiranga Rally, celebrating the spirit of patriotism and unity. The rally, held within the university campus, was led by Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Dr. B.N. Tripathi, along with the esteemed presence of all the statutory officers, staff and student of the university.

On 15th August, Independence Day functions were held at both the Chatha and RS Pura campuses as well at KVK of SKUAST-Jammu. The Hon'ble Vice Chancellor hoisted the national flag in the presence of statutory officers, teaching and non-teaching staff, and students. Floral tributes were paid to the Father of the Nation, followed by



Scientific Meetings

Hon'ble Lt. Governor Shri Manoj Sinha ji chaired 20th University Council Meeting of SKUAST Jammu

The Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor, Shri Manoj Sinha, chaired the 20th University Council Meeting of SKUAST Jammu at the Raj Bhawan on 26th September. During the meeting, Dr. B.N. Tripathi, Vice Chancellor of SKUAST Jammu, presented the University's progress report, highlighting significant advancements



in research, patents, and publications. He discussed the University's efforts to tackle key challenges in agriculture and allied sectors, emphasizing the importance of translating research and innovation from the lab to the field to enhance productivity. The Lt Governor underscored the need for the University to adopt modern and sustainable agricultural practices and encouraged a stronger focus on engagement with the farming community. He also stressed the implementation of e-office systems. The Council commended the University's achievements under the National Agricultural Higher Education Project (NAHEP) and granted in-principle approval to several agenda items, including the adoption of UGC-based qualifications for the posts of Assistant Registrar and Assistant Comptroller, as well as ICAR norms for Subject Matter Specialists. The meeting was attended by Sh. Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary; Sh. Shailendra Kumar, Principal Secretary, Agriculture Production Department; Sh. Santosh D. Vaidya, Principal Secretary, Finance Department; Dr. Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, Principal Secretary to the Lt Governor; Dr. B.N. Tripathi, Vice Chancellor, SKUAST Jammu; Prof. Nazir A. Ganai, Vice Chancellor, SKUAST Kashmir; Prof. P.L. Gautam, Pro-Chancellor, Career Point University, Hamirpur; Dr. M.C. Sharma, former Director of the Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar, Bareilly; Prof. Anil Kumar, Registrar, SKUAST-Jammu, and other senior officials, both in person and via virtual mode.

Zonal Research and Extension Advisory Committee (ZREAC) Meeting for kharif 2024

SKUAST Jammu organized the Zonal Research and Extension Advisory Committee meeting for Kharif on July 4th 2024, focusing on agriculture, horticulture, sericulture, floriculture, Command Area Development, Animal Husbandry, Sheep Husbandry, and fisheries. The meeting was chaired by Prof. B.N. Tripathi, Vice Chancellor of SKUAST-Jammu. He highlighted the need for effective feedback from these departments to identify researchable issues and address the problems faced by farmers in the Jammu region. Prof. Tripathi reiterated the university's commitment to providing solutions for all farming challenges across the region's 10 districts. Dr. S.K. Gupta, Director of Research at SKUAST-Jammu, presented an overview of the university's research activities. Dr. Amrish Vaid, Director of Extension, welcomed the Vice Chancellor, statutory officers, department directors, division heads, KVK heads, scientists, and officers from various departments. Package of practices were also released during the occasion. Key discussions during the meeting included several important topics. Shri Arvinder Singh Reen, Director of Agriculture Production and Farmers

Welfare, Jammu, spoke about introducing new silage-making interventions to enhance productivity. He also addressed the



challenges posed by the monkey menace in agriculture. and the management of the fall armyworm. Shri Chaman Lal Sharma, Director of Horticulture, Jammu, emphasized the need for standardizing packaging materials for strawberries, promoting cultivation of summer apple crops, and adopting low-cost technology for aloe vera cultivation. Assistant Director, Sericulture highlighted the development of new drought-resistant mulberry varieties and improved silkworm races. Additionally, the Floriculture officer advocated for the commercial cultivation of enhanced marigold varieties and the creation of a mobile application to assist farmers. The meeting was attended by all statutory officers of the university, KVKs and representatives from various departments.



SKUAST Jammu HVC Chaired SAC Meetings at KVKs, Samba, Kathua and Reasi

Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVK) districts, Samba, Kathua and Reasi held its annual Scientific Advisory Committee meetings at its headquarters, chaired by Prof. B.N. Tripathi, Hon'le Vice Chancellor of SKUAST-Jammu. Prof. Sanjay Khajuria, Head of KVK Samba, Dr Vishal Mahajan, Head KVK Kathua and Dr Banarsi Lal Head KVK Reasi presented the annual progress report, highlighted the achievements and presented the action plan of 2024-25. The meeting, attended by various university deans, directors, district officers, KVK staff and farmers representatives, focused on reviewing the progress of 2023-24 and finalizing the action plan for 2024-25.



In his address, Prof. Tripathi emphasized the need for extensive outreach to address farmers' issues and highlighted the importance of promoting value addition, protected cultivation, and dairy farming to increase farmer incomes. He praised efforts of the KVKs and encouraged further documentation of their work. Prof. S.K. Gupta, Director Research, and Prof. Amrish Vaid, Director Extension, Dean Dairy Science, Veterinary Science, Horticulture from SKUAST Jammu commended KVKs achievements and stressed the importance of proper documentation and visibility for KVK activities.

The meeting concluded with positive feedback from district officers and progressive farmers, who appreciated KVKs impact on the local farming community.

Participation in Annual Zonal Workshop of KVKs of Zone -1

Director Extension SKUAST Jammu Dr. Amrish Vaid alongwith KVKs 09 KVK Heads attended 03 days Annual Zonal Workshop of Krishi Vigyan Kendras of Zone 1 under ICAR - Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute (ATARI) at GADVASU Ludhiana from 18th to 20th September 2024. Director Extension presented overall progress of KVKs under SKUAST Jammu. All Heads of KVKs presented Action Plan of their respective KVKs for the FY 2024-25. SKUAST Jammu bag



"Our primary focus is to ensure the effective implementation and evaluation of all university programmes and initiatives. Through disciplined effort and strategic decision-making, we work to strengthen the resources necessary to drive the success of these projects. The positive outcomes of our work are evident in the growth and development of infrastructure, including state-of-the-art laboratories and modern equipment funded through various projects. These initiatives have significantly enhanced the research and academic capabilities, bringing tangible benefits to our students and faculty"

Dr Sanjay Khar, Director, Planning and Monitoring

Celebration of Important Days

Celebration of World Zoonoses Day 2024

The Faculty of Veterinary Sciences & Animal Husbandry, R.S. Pura, SKUAST-Jammu, celebrated World Zoonoses Day 2024 at the international border village Floura in Suchetgarh tehsil. Organized under the guidance of Prof. B.N. Tripathi, HVC, the event was inaugurated by Dr. M.S. Bhadwal, Associate Dean, who served as the Chief Guest. World Zoonoses Day, observed annually on July 6th, aims to raise awareness about zoonotic diseases and their impact on human and animal health. Expert lectures and interactions with farmers were conducted by scientists.



coordinator welcomed all the dignitaries, fish farmers, and students in her inaugural address and gave a brief note about the significance of National Fish Farmers Day. Theme lecture was given by Dr. Akhil Gupta, Professor (Fisheries), also highlighted different activities undertaken at the Division. The event was attended by statutory officers, who also shared their perspectives.

Parthenium Awareness Programme

SKUAST Jammu's AICRP-Weed Management, Division of Agronomy, in collaboration with KVK Samba, organized a Parthenium Awareness Programme on August 21, 2024, at Calivary High School Samba. The purpose of organizing a Parthenium awareness program in schools was to educate students about the harmful effects of Parthenium weed on human health, the environment, and agriculture. It aimed to raise awareness about the invasive nature of this weed, its impact on biodiversity,



Anti-Corruption Bureau observed Vigilance Awareness Week

J&K Anti-Corruption Bureau has launched an array of special awareness programs throughout the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir in observance of



Honoured Fish Farmers on Occasion of National Fish Farmers' Day 2024

Prof. B.N. Tripathi, Vice Chancellor of SKUAST-Jammu, inaugurated National Fish Farmer Day 2024 and highlighted the rapid growth of the fishery sector, noting its average annual growth of 8% and aquaculture's impressive 10% yearly increase. He also felicitated progressive farmers Sh. Basant Kumar of Bishnah as the Star Farmer of Jammu under the DST Project. Director of Research SKUAST-J, Dr. Sushil Kumar Gupta stressed the need and importance of creating awareness



among different fishery stakeholders on various aspects of aquaculture for a prosperous community. Dr. Sahar Masud, Head Division of Fisheries &

Vigilance Awareness Week 2024. As part of this initiative, ACB Jammu organized an awareness program in collaboration with SKUAST, Jammu, Chatha on August 8th



2024. The program was attended by Officers, faculty members, other staff members and students of the University. The speakers of ACB delivered lectures as how they can help in the eradication of corruption. They demonstrated the accessibility of Anti-Corruption Bureau through Toll Free numbers, WhatsApp, email & applications like Satark Nagrik. This initiative aimed to heighten vigilance consciousness among the populace.

Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-J Kick Starts Plantation Drive at University Campus



Vanmahotsava, the tree-planting festival, was celebrated on July 16, 2024, by the Division of Silviculture & Agroforestry, Faculty of Horticulture & Forestry, SKUAST-Jammu, in collaboration with the Department of Forest Ecology and Environment JKUT at the Main Campus, Chatha. The event was inaugurated by Dr. B.N. Tripathi, Vice Chancellor, who planted a Red Chandan sapling (*Pterocarpus santalinus*). Dr. M.K. Kumar (IFS), CCF, East Circle, Jammu, the Guest of Honour, planted a Rudraksh sapling (*Elaeocarpus ganitrus*). Dr. Tripathi emphasized the importance of tree plantation as a key measure to combat climate change and global warming.



He encouraged the "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" campaign, urging participants to plant a tree in honor of their mother and Mother Earth. Dr. Kumar highlighted the need for simple living to reduce carbon footprints and addressed concerns about indoor and outdoor pollution. The event, coordinated by Dr. Sandeep Sehgal and Ashwani Kumar under the guidance of Dr. Vikas Tandon., Forest officers, faculty, staff, and students. Senior officials, including Dr. S.K. Gupta, Dr. Rajinder Peshin, Dr. Amrish Vaid, Dr. Sanjay Khar, and Dr. Anil Kumr



actively participated in the program. In the series of plantation drive, National Service Scheme organized van manhotsav by planting saplings of trees. Sensitization cum environment awareness program was organized on "National students Paryavaran competition (NSPC) - Sowing to Growing, on July 15th, 2024 for NSS students SKUAST-Jammu, Chatha.



"At SKUAST-Jammu, we foster an environment of academic excellence and holistic growth, ensuring that students are empowered to reach their full potential. Together, we strive to uphold the values of innovation, inclusivity, and service to the community."

Dr Sudhakar Dwivedi, Dean Student Welfare

Capacity Building Programs

Boosting Innovation and Entrepreneurship in the Food Sector



The vocational training program "Boosting Innovation and Entrepreneurship in the Food Sector" was held at SKUAST-Jammu by the Division of Post Harvest Management from August 1-8, 2024, emphasizing

entrepreneurship, waste utilization, and industry-academia collaboration in agriculture..

Workshop on Soft Skill Development

SKUAST-Jammu's Career Development Center, in collaboration with ICAR-NAARM, organized a four-day



Soft Skills Development workshop for 40 students, focusing on communication, leadership,

time management, and interview preparation.



Workshop on Bovine Mastitis: Recent Concepts in Diagnosis and Management

A two-day workshop on "Bovine Mastitis: Recent Concepts in Diagnosis and Management" was held on July 19, 2024, at the Faculty of Veterinary Sciences and Animal Husbandry, SKUAST-



Jammu, attracting 59 participants, including Veterinary Assistant Surgeons and veterinary students

Skill Training Programme on Milk Value Addition

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Jammu organized a five-day skill training program for 50 local farmers and dairy producers, focussing on value addition in milk products supported by the Division of



Livestock Products Technology, SKUAST Jammu. The training included practical demonstrations to

enhance profitability and reduce waste, with participants eager to implement the techniques learned.

Week-long Training Program on Digital Literacy

SKUAST Jammu's Division of Statistics and Computer Science held a week-long "Digital Literacy" training from July 3-2024, covering AI, ChatGPT, Software, and more, enhancing student research skills.



Entrepreneurship Opportunities in Fodder Processing

SKUAST-J held a training program on "Entrepreneurship Opportunities in Fodder Processing," at the Faculty of Veterinary Sciences & Animal Husbandry featuring expert lectures on animal nutrition, government initiatives and innovations in dairy farming

Workshop on Updates on Management of Post-Partum Reproductive Disorders in Farm Animals

A one-day workshop on "Updates on Management of Post-Partum Reproductive Disorders in Farm Animals" at the



Faculty of Veterinary Sciences and Animal Husbandry, SKUAST-Jammu featured 60 veterinary internec

One Day Workshop on Digital Tools in Academics

SKUAST-Jammu hosted a one-day workshop on "Digital Tools in Academics," featuring expert lectures on machine learning and AI, with participation from students and faculty. Expert lectures were delivered by Er. Utkarsh Tripathi from Chicago (Online) besides delivering 43 lectures in physical mode by various experts.



Focus in Agricultural Education

Memorandum of Understanding

SKUAST-Jammu Inks MOU with United Phosphorus Limited on July 10, 2024

SKUAST-Jammu and United Phosphorus Limited (UPL) signed an MoU to advance education, research, and development in agricultural



science. The agreement, formalized by Prof. Anil Kumar and Mr. Ponnusamy Pillai, focuses on fostering innovation and improving agricultural practices. The partnership aims to address modern challenges in agriculture through cutting-edge research

SKUAST-Jammu Inks MOU with ICAR-IASRI, New Delhi on July 5, 2024

SKUAST-Jammu and ICAR-IASRI signed an MoU to enhance academic and research collaboration.



The partnership, formalized by Prof. Anil Kumar and Dr. Rajender Parsad, focuses on faculty visits, student exchanges, joint research, and specialized training. Both institutions will also engage in organizing academic events and creating customized programs.

SKUAST-Jammu Inks MOU with Fil Industry Limited on July 10, 2024

SKUAST-Jammu and FIL Industries Pvt. Ltd. signed an MoU to enhance education, research, and development in agricultural science. The agreement, formalized by Prof. Anil Kumar and Mr. Ramnik Sharma, aims to drive technological advancements and capacity-building. This collaboration benefits both the academic community and the broader agricultural sector.



SKUAST-Jammu inks MOU with CIIT, Jammu on July 17, 2024



SKUAST Jammu, signed an MoU with the CIIT at Government Polytechnic College Jammu. The agreement was formalized by Prof. Sushil Sharma of SKUAST-Jammu and Er. Arun Bangotra of Government Polytechnic. The event was attended by Sh. Sudershan Kumar, Director of Skill Development, J&K, and faculty members from both institutions

SKUAST-Jammu inks MOU with Bayer Crop Science Limited, on August 21, 2024

SKUAST-Jammu signed an MoU with Bayer Crop Science Ltd. to foster collaboration in seeds and crop protection technology. The agreement, signed by Prof. Anil Kumar and Mr. Gulshan Singh Rana, was witnessed by Vice-Chancellor Prof. B.N. Tripathi. Bayer representatives and university officials attended, highlighting the significance of academia-industry partnerships for advancing agricultural technology



Counselling Concludes for UG and PG Admissions at SKUAST-Jammu for Academic Year 2024-25

Following the declaration of results for the SKUAST-Jammu Common Entrance Test (CET)-2024, three rounds of counselling for admission to undergraduate and postgraduate programmes were successfully conducted. The admission-cum-Counselling Committee, chaired by the Director of Education, along with the Deans of various faculties, oversaw the process for six undergraduate programmes—BVSc. & A.H., B.Sc. (Hons.) Agriculture, B.Sc. (Hons.) Horticulture, B.Tech. (Biotechnology), B.Tech. (Agril. Engineering), and B.Tech. (Dairy Technology)—as well as 24 postgraduate disciplines. After three rounds of counselling, including seats for NRI candidates, most of the available slots have been filled, and the first-year batches for both UG and PG courses for the academic



SKUAST-Jammu inks MOU with BIS on August 20, 2024

SKUAST-Jammu and the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) signed an

MoU to establish a Standardized Agriculture Demonstration Farm (SADF) at the university. The agreement, formalized by Vice-Chancellor Prof. B.N. Tripathi and BIS Deputy Director General Smt. Sneha Lata, aims to enhance research and development in farming. This collaboration marks BIS's first partnership with an agricultural university in Jammu & Kashmir, promoting quality consciousness among farmers.

Focus in Agricultural Research

New Externally Funded Project Sanctioned

Title: Deciphering the Genetic Basis of Lower Susceptibility of Indigenous Cattle to Bovine Anaplasmosis

Funding Agency: ICAR-National Agricultural Science Fund

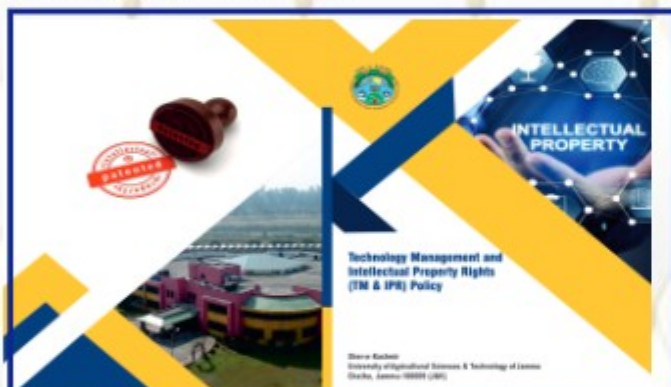
Sanctioned Amount: ₹26.10 Lakhs

Project Duration: 3 Years (April 2024 to March 2026)

CCPI: Dr Anish Yadav, Professor & Head, Department of Veterinary Parasitology

Intellectual Property Right (IPR) Policy Document Developed

A comprehensive IPR policy document has been developed to govern the Technology Management and Intellectual Property Rights (TM&IPR) framework of the University. This document provides the mechanism and procedures for the preservation and use of intellectual property, and the dissemination of inventions and discoveries from university research to the public through technology transfer.



Distribution of Planting Material, Seeds, and Bioagents

·Elite planting material has been distributed to fruit growers and various units of SKUAST-Jammu. This includes Kinnow, Mandarin, Aonla, Mango, Phalsa, Karonda, Galgal, Kagzi lime, Jackfruit, Beal, and Custard apple. ·Rootstock multiplication is also underway, with 2,000 Jatti khatti and 2,000 mango rootstocks being propagated.

·Bio-control agents for eco-friendly pest and disease management are being supplied to KVKs and the Department of Agriculture for distribution and demonstration in farmers' fields. Over 5,000 disease-free



and high-quality plants of Mango, Sweet orange, Kinnow, Litchi, and other species have been provided to growers by the Centre of Excellence, Udheywala.

New Walnut Variety 'Parbat' released for Jammu Region

A significant development in the field of horticulture for the Jammu region, the walnut variety 'Parbat' has been officially released and notified by the Central Sub-Committee, chaired by the Deputy Director General (Horticulture) of ICAR, New Delhi.

The newly introduced 'Parbat' walnut variety is particularly well-suited for cultivation in the Jammu region, offering excellent characteristics that promise to boost walnut production in the area. The tree exhibits medium vigor with a spreading growth habit and sparse branch density, making it adaptable to local environmental conditions.

Key features of the 'Parbat' walnut include:

Nut weight: 19.18 g

Nut dimensions: Length – 44.32 mm, Width – 42.17 mm, Thickness – 41.25 mm,

Kernel weight: 10.22 g

Kernel percentage: 53.28%, **Nut yield:** 90 kg per tree

Protein content: 22%, **Oil content:** 61.50%

This high-yield variety, with its strong protein and oil content, is expected to play a pivotal role in improving the economic returns for walnut growers in the region. With a yield of 90 kg per tree, 'Parbat' stands as a promising addition to the region's agricultural landscape, contributing to the socio-economic development of the Jammu region's horticulture sector.



Patent Granted: Automatic Timer-Based Variable Speed Device for Sprinkler

A notable achievement under the DST-funded project is the granting of a patent for the innovative "Automatic Timer-Based Variable Speed Device for Sprinkler." This device, developed by a dedicated team of scientists—Dr. Sushmita M. Dadhich (Principal Investigator), Dr. R.K. Srivastava (Co-Principal Investigator), and the late Er. Hemant Dadhich (Co-Principal Investigator)—enhances sprinkler efficiency by enabling automatic speed control through a timer. This technology optimizes water usage in irrigation systems, offering significant benefits for sustainable agriculture.



Achievements under Holistic Agriculture Development Program (HADP) at SKUAST Jammu

Capacity Building Programme

- Two trainings of one day duration each on “Scientific cultivation of local land races of rajmash and the management of anthracnose” and “Importance and Scope of Pecannut cultivation in Mid-hill Areas of J & K” were held at RHRS, Bhaderwah for 40 farmers under HADP project No. 02: Promotion of Niche crops.
- Four trainings for 121 CEOs and members of FPOs and project staff of Market Intelligence Cell were conducted under HADP project No. 04: Strengthening Agricultural Marketing in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir” by AEABM.
- Two trainings on “Prospects and Need of Organic and Natural Farming” and “Organic and Natural Farming” each of one day duration were held for 114 farmers/rural youth under HADP project No. 16: Alternate Agriculture System for Sustainability.
- One day training program on “Reviving Wool and Cottage Industry: Training and Field Demonstration Program” for 70 rural artisans was held at Basholi under HADP project No. 27: Promotion of wool and pelt for effective processing and marketing.



Training Program on Strengthening Rural Business Service Hubs (RBSH)

The Krishi Branding Centre at SKUAST-Jammu, in collaboration with the Directorate of Horticulture Planning and Marketing, Jammu organized a three-day training program focused on strengthening Rural Business Service Hubs (RBSH) under Project No. 4, titled “Strengthening Agricultural Marketing in the U.T. of J&K,” as part of the HADP. Prof. B.N. Tripathi, HVC, emphasized on the importance of geotagging products to expand their consumer reach and encouraged participants to pursue more innovative ideas for brand promotion and marketing. Other notable speakers including Mr. Ayaz Ahmed Natnoo, Deputy Director of Horticulture, Planning & Marketing, Narwal, Jammu discussed the government’s future plans for the HADP and highlighted the benefits participants could gain from associated schemes under the program. Prof. Jyoti Kachroo, P.I. of the HADP project provided an overview of the event's activities. A total of 18 participants, including representatives from Farmers' Producer Organizations (FPOs), CEOs of agricultural ventures, RBSH applicants, and entrepreneurs, actively engaged the training sessions.



Holistic Agriculture Development Program (HADP) is a game-changer for J&K's agriculture and allied sectors. The program's 29 projects can address challenges faced by farmers and diversify income sources.

Shri Manoj Sinha
Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor
Jammu & Kashmir



Focus in Agricultural Extension

Farmers at KVK Jammu Witnessed Release of 109 Varieties by Hon'ble Prime Minister

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Jammu, organized a Kisan Sammelan cum Farmers-Scientist interaction to celebrate the release of 109 new agricultural and horticultural crop varieties by the Hon'ble Prime Minister at ICAR, New Delhi. The event, attended by local farmers



and rural youth, featured Dr. Amrish Vaid, Director Extension at SKUAST-Jammu, as the Chief Guest, and Smt. Vidya Motan, DDC member Miran Sahib, as the Guest of Honour. Dr. Vaid highlighted the significance of the newly released climate-resilient varieties in enhancing crop production and productivity. Smt. Motan commended KVK Jammu for its efforts in improving the socioeconomic status of farmers in the region. The event also included a farmers-scientists interaction on schemes of HADP and online training opportunities.

Technology Week' Celebrated at KVK Jammu

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Jammu, inaugurated a Technology



Week from August 12-17, 2024. The event was led by Dr. Amrish Vaid, Director Extension, SKUAST-Jammu, with Dr. Rajesh Katoch, Dean of Veterinary Sciences, as the Chief Guest, and Dr. Hema Tripathi as Special Guest.

Dr. Vaid introduced the technologies and programs, while Dr. Katoch discussed managing parasites in livestock. Dr. Hema Tripathi encouraged farmers to engage with KVKs for better technology use. Events like Kisan Sammelan, drone demos, a Crop Seminar on Nano-Fertilizers, and parthenium awareness were announced by Dr. Punit Choudhary, KVK Jammu Head. The week also aired as *Farm to Table 3.0* on FM Tadka 95.0, covering topics like dairy farming, mushroom cultivation, and aquaculture. Chicks of chabro were also distributed to the farmers.

Training-cum-Awareness Programme at Salehar and Arnia villages of Jammu District

The Division of Veterinary Pharmacology and Toxicology, F.V.Sc & A.H., SKUAST-Jammu, organized a two-day camp under the DBT project titled "*Socio-Economic Upliftment of Poor Farmers through Animal Husbandry using Scientific Interventions*" in Salehar and Arnia villages, Jammu. Led by Dr. N. K. Pankaj, the team highlighted livestock entrepreneurship and hay-making from seasonal fodder for lean periods. Dr. R. K. Bhardwaj discussed disease prevention in cattle, emphasizing mastitis and ecto-parasite control. Dr. Sharad Kumar focused on balanced nutrition and its impact on livestock health and productivity.



Training on Agripreneurship Development for Rural Women and Youth in Kandi Area of Jammu

The Division of Agricultural Extension Education, SKUAST-Jammu, organized a training program titled "*Agripreneurship Development in Kandi Area of Jammu: A Pathway to Self-Reliant Rural Women and Youth,*" under JKST&IC project held at KVK Samba. The event aimed to empower rural women and youth from Nud Block, district Samba. Chief Guest Prof. Hema Tripathi emphasized the potential of value addition in minor fruits to boost rural livelihoods. Prof. Poonam Parihar, PI



of the project, noted that minor fruits naturally thrive in Kandi's low-rainfall areas, presenting opportunities for agripreneurship. Dr. Sanjay Khajuria, Head KVK Samba, and Prof. Jagmohan Singh, Head of Post-Harvest Management, demonstrated the value addition of Karonda into products like squash and pickle. Over 60 rural women from self-help groups and students from SKUAST-Jammu participated. The program concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Neerja Sharma.

Certificate Course on INM for Input Dealers at KVK Poonch



Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Poonch, organized 15 days certificate course on 'Integrated Nutrition Management (INM)' for input dealers from 29-08-2024 to 14-09-2024. A total of 20 participants hailing from different areas of Poonch district availed the training on INM. During the training programme, 32 lectures and practicals on different aspects of fertilizers were delivered by experts of KVK and SKUAST-Jammu.



Training and Awareness Camp in Reasi District

The Faculty of Veterinary Sciences and Animal Husbandry at SKUAST-Jammu, led by Dr. S. K. Gupta organized a two-day "Training cum Awareness Camp" in Barakh, Dehote, and Kotla villages of Reasi district. The initiative, part of a DBT, Government of India project aimed at uplifting poor farmers through animal husbandry, focused on educating local farmers on managing livestock health issues, including mastitis, anestrus, and toxic fodder. The camp was well-received, with local leaders and farmers expressing gratitude for the ongoing support from SKUAST-Jammu. Dr S. R. Upadhyay, Professor, Veterinary Medicine, Dr. Sharad Kumar, Professor, Veterinary Gynecology and Obstetrics, Dr. N. K. Pankaj, PI & Professor & Head, Veterinary Pharmacology and Toxicology interacted with the farmers.



Agri Drone Demonstrations

The Directorate of Extension, SKUAST-Jammu, organized an agri-drone demonstration for farmers at Chakroi farm, showcasing cutting-edge technology for precision farming. Dr. S.K. Gupta, Director of Research, chaired the event, while Dr. Amrish Vaid, Director of Extension, served as the Guest of Honour. This event aimed to promote the integration of drone echnology in agriculture, enhancing efficiency and productivity for local farmers. More than 50 farmers attended the agri-drone demonstration.



Achievements under State Agricultural Management and Extension Training institute

Training Programmes for Officers on Agriculture and Livestock Management

Between July and September 2024, three training programmes were conducted for 48 officers from various line departments, comprising 36 male and 12 female officers. Of the three programmes, two focused on agriculture. The first, Utilization of Under-utilized Fruits



for Development of Value-added Products, and the second, Production and Management Practices for Kharif Crops of Jammu Region, were attended by 35 participants, including Subject Matter Specialists,



Agriculture Extension Assistants, and Junior Agriculture Extension Officers from the Department of Agriculture. The third training programme, Livestock Feed and Fodder Production and Its Availability, was attended by 13 Veterinary Assistant Surgeons from the Departments of Animal Husbandry and Sheep Husbandry. The participants were exposed to both theoretical and practical aspects of the topics. In addition, two more training programs were conducted exclusively for 75 officials of Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) on Food and Health Concerns of Women and Gender Mainstreaming related areas.



Three Days Online Training on Sustainable Agriculture

SAMETI-Jammu, in collaboration with MANAGE, Hyderabad, organized an online training programme from August 27-29, 2024, titled "Sustainable Agriculture." Seventy-two participants, including faculty and research scholars from various states, attended the event. Eminent scientists from SKUAST-Jammu covered topics such as Green Revolution, biodiversity, soil health, water management, organic farming, climate-resilient technologies, sustainable dairy farming, and government initiatives in sustainable agriculture. The programme was guided by Dr. Amrish Vaid (Director SAMETI) with coordination from Dr. Anil Kumar Reddy from MANAGE and Puja Nayyar from SAMETI, Jammu.



Certificate Distribution for One Year Diploma in Agricultural Extension Services for Input Dealers (DAESI)

On September 6, 2024, a valedictory and certificate distribution ceremony was held at SAMETI-Jammu, SKUAST-Jammu, Main Campus, Chatha, for the second batch of participants who successfully completed the One Year Diploma in Agricultural Extension Services for Input Dealers (DAESI). Certificates were awarded to 34 input dealers by Dr. Amrish Vaid, Director SAMETI-Jammu, and Dr. Vikas Tandon, Dean, Faculty of Horticulture and Forestry. This programme, aimed at enhancing the knowledge and skills of input dealers, equips them to better serve the farming community by providing accurate information on agricultural practices, inputs, and innovations. The event marked the successful conclusion of the second batch' training.

Promoting Innovations, Startup and Entrepreneurship Development

Sensitization Programmes

The Agri-Business Incubation Centre (ABI) at SKUAST-Jammu organized three sensitization programs on agri-entrepreneurship development in collaboration with



Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) in Reasi, Jammu, and Samba. These events took place on August 5, 2024, at Reasi, August 13, 2024, at KVK Jammu, and September 4, 2024, at KVK Samba, under the patronage of Prof. B.N. Tripathi, Hon'le Vice Chancellor of SKUAST-Jammu. The programs attracted progressive farmers, innovative youth, students, and local artisans from nearby villages. Prof. Jyoti Kachroo, P.I/CEO of ABI, SKUAST-J, highlighted the vast scope of agri-entrepreneurship and detailed the opportunities offered by ABI, SKUAST-J for training and supporting innovative agri-startups in Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh through specialized entrepreneurship training and funding programs.



First Instalment of Grant-in-Aid Disbursed to 4th Batch Startup, Nutrichip Agri LLP

On August 29, 2024, the first instalment of Grant-in-Aid, amounting to ₹3,00,000, was disbursed to the company account of Ms. Ruchy Raina, founder of M/s Nutrichip Agri LLP, a startup from the 4th batch. Nutrichip Agri LLP specializes in manufacturing cottage cheese fortified with herbs and vegetables to enhance its nutritional value.

Display of Products by Startups During Exhibitions

Two start-ups viz. Mr. Ahmer Bashir Shah, founder of BB & GG LLP and Ms. Aniza Mushtaq, founder of Jammuz Papier Machie Pvt. Ltd. displayed their innovative products through stalls set up during the launch of 500 Kisan Khidmat Ghars (KKG's) during Kisan Unnati Sammelan held August 4th 2024 at SKUAST-Kashmir. These startups also displayed their products at SKUAST Jammu during Industry Academia Meet to establish their brands and generate leads and networking with industry professionals.



Infrastructure Development

Establishment of NESCAFE Kiosk

HVC, SKUAST-Jammu, Dr B. N. Tripathi, inaugurated a Nescafe kiosk on 22nd August at the Faculty of Agriculture in presence of the statutory officers of the University. The function was attended by the HoDs of various divisions along with teaching and non-teaching staff. The kiosk will be operated by franchisee S. Inderpal Singh and will provide quality snacking and beverage options for students and staff of the University at the Main Campus, Chatha.



KVK Jammu Installed IoT-Based Automatic Pump Controller for Efficient Irrigation

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Jammu, under the leadership of Vice Chancellor Prof. B.N. Tripathi and guidance of Director Extension Dr. Amrish Vaid, has installed an IoT-based Automatic Pump Controller for controlled irrigation. Installed by Jalprayah Autotech Ltd. in collaboration with Policy Advocacy Research Centre (PARC) India, this system aims to demonstrate efficient water use to farmers in Jammu district. The sensor-based technology reduces water wastage, addressing issues caused by manual operation and erratic power. KVK Jammu is the first to implement this technology on its farm for demonstration purposes.



Infrastructure enhancement under HADP

Seed Stores, Threshing Floor and Equipment Shed

Under the "Development of Seed and Seed Multiplication Chain in PPP Mode" project, three new seed stores have been established to provide quality seeds. A dedicated threshing floor has been built to improve the post-harvest process, and an implement shed has been constructed to store and organize essential farming equipment. These improvements aim to enhance agricultural efficiency and support the growth and productivity of the farming community.

Wool testing Laboratory

The Division of Livestock Products Technology (LPT) at the Faculty of Veterinary Sciences & Animal Husbandry has renovated its wool testing facility. The upgraded lab has successfully blended wool fibers with natural cotton and artificial viscose, resulting in the development of two distinct wool-blended yarns. This innovation marks a significant advancement in wool fiber technology, opening new avenues for textile applications and improving the quality and versatility of wool products.



Two hi-tech protected structures have been established in Rajouri and Poonch for walnut and pecan plant multiplication, promoting high-density plantations and orchard rejuvenation.

Hi-Tech Protected Structures and Polyhouses

Two hi-tech polyhouses have been constructed to demonstrate floriculture and vegetable crop cultivation. An herbal gene bank is being developed to conserve medicinal and aromatic plant species. A product development laboratory is also being set up to improve post-harvest management techniques.

"Cluster-Based Floriculture Entrepreneurship for Employment Generation in UT of J&K," the construction of the Hi-Tech polyhouse has been completed, and propagation of high-value indoor plants and ornamental annuals is now underway.



Field Tours

Thirty NCC cadets from Govt. Degree college for women, Udhampur along with two teachers and District Coordinator of J&K Science Technology & Innovation Council Science & Technology Department Udhampur visited Division of Biochemistry, Mushroom Unit, Bee Keeping Farm, Integrated Farming System and Sericulture Division of SKUAST-Jammu on 27.08.2024. The Field tour/Campus visit was Coordinated by Dr. Ravinder Singh Sudan Professor (PBG), Dr S.K Mishra Assoc. Professor (Agronomy) along with four Ph.D Scholars under the guidance of Prof. Anil Kumar Dean, Faculty of Agriculture & Registrar SKUAST-Jammu.



production etc offering the cadets practical experience in various enterprises.. The NCC cadets under the leadership of Mr. Kuldeep Kachru, Commanding Officer, were accompanied by Dr. Gurwinder Kour (CTO, GCW Parade), Second Lieutenant Mr. Ajay Sharma, Subedar Sohan Singh, and Havaldar Ravinder Singh.

Six hundred thirty three students along with 24 teachers from 7 different schools of Jammu district visited SKUAST-Jammu on 29.08.2024 to



attend the Agriculture Education student fair organized at Main Campus, Chatha. During their visit, the students visited the Technology Park, Museum and campus of the University. The Field tour/Campus visit was Coordinated by Dr. Ravinder Singh Sudan Professor (PBG) and team including Ph.D. Scholars under the guidance of Prof. Anil Kumar Dean, Faculty of Agriculture & Registrar SKUAST-Jammu.

SKUAST Jammu hosted a group of NCC cadets from the 4 J&K Battalion, Nagrota Camp on 17.09.2024 for an enriching Entrepreneurship Exposure Visit to provide the cadets with a comprehensive understanding of the university's innovative agricultural practices and entrepreneurial opportunities.. The cadets toured the advanced hydroponics facility, bee-keeping unit, mushroom



"Studying BVSc at SKUAST-Jammu has been a dream come true. From the moment I arrived, I felt immense gratitude for this beautiful, serene campus. The professors and seniors here have been incredibly supportive, guiding me with compassion and dedication, and accelerating my learning every step of the way. I'm truly grateful for the nurturing environment and the growth I've experienced at this remarkable institution."



Parika Goswami
3rd Year, BVSc & AH



Harshvardhan Gupta
4th Year, BVSc & AH

"At SKUAST, Jammu you are surrounded by students who want to excel in the field which makes for an excellent learning environment. The classes that I take at SKUAST, especially the lab-based and farm-based ones, give me a strong foundation for veterinary school in both knowledge and practical skills. I feel extremely thankful to the faculty for providing me with an exception educational experience."

Awards, Fellowships, Foreign Visits

Directorate of Extension won 'Chal Baijayanti Puruskar' 2024 for Best Directorate in Zone-I

In a remarkable achievement, the Directorate of Extension at Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology, Jammu, has been awarded the prestigious 'Chal Baijayanti Puruskar' 2024 for being the Best Directorate in Zone-I. The honor was presented during the Annual Zonal Workshop of Krishi Vigyan Kendras, organized by ICAR-ATARI, Ludhiana, held at GADVASU from September 18-20, 2024.

Dr. Amrish Vaid, Director Extension, accepted the award, which is a testament to the visionary leadership of Prof. B.N. Tripathi, Vice Chancellor of SKUAST-Jammu. The university's scientists have made a significant impact by advancing e-extension initiatives, contributing to this prestigious recognition.



Innovative Technology of SKUAST-Jammu Received National Award

Prof. Rakesh Sharma received a prestigious award from the Deputy Director General of ICAR for developing an innovative technology to benefit small and

marginal farmers in the Jammu region's kandi belt at the 96th ICAR

Foundatio

n &

Technolog

y Day on

July 15-16,

2024, in

New Delhi.

The

technology

, part of the Farmer FIRST project, was led by Prof.

Rakesh Sharma, with contributions from Prof. Pawan

Sharma, Prof. Amrish Vaid, and ICAR team members.



Dr. Anil Bhat, Associate Director Research, awarded with Dr. M.S. Swaminathan Award-2024 by Indian Society of Agricultural Science & Technology Research (ISASTR), Greater Noida



Prof. Vikas Sharma won the National Geospatial Award at IIT Bombay



Prof. Sharma (Soil Science) received the National Geospatial Faculty Fellow Award rewarded during the National Geospatial Awards 2024 Ceremony held at IIT Bombay on 15th September 2024. for his contribution to the application of Geospatial Technology.

KVK Reasi was honoured as the Best Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) of Jammu & Kashmir. Dr. Banarsi Lal, Chief Scientist & Head of KVK Reasi, received the award.



- **Dr. Punit Choudhary**, Chief Scientist & Head of KVK Jammu, was recognized with the Best Presentation Award for his outstanding contributions.
- **Dr. Sanjay Khajuria**, Chief Scientist & Head KVK Samba received the prestigious 'Natural Farming Out-Scaling Excellence Award 2024' from ICAR-ATARI Zone-I during workshop on "Out Scaling of Natural Farming through KVK"

Officers, Staff and Startups Awarded on 26th Foundation Day of SKUAST Jammu



Best Teacher
Dr. Anish Yadav
(Veterinary Parasitology)



Best Scientist
Dr. Vishal Gupta
(Plant Pathology)



Best Woman Scientist
Dr. Moni Gupta
(Biochemistry)



Best Extension Scientist
Dr. Rakesh Sharma
(Agricultural Extension Education)



Best Officer in Administration category
Dr. Bharat Bhushan
(Joint Registrar)



Best FPO
Sh. Suresh Kumar,
Shivalik Hills Honey, Kathua



Best Rural Business Service Hub
Sh. Mohit Kumar, Batote



Best Startup
Sh. Dharun Sharma
Urban Hills Food Processing Pvt Ltd. Katra



Foreign visit of Scientists

Dr. Neelesh Sharma, Professor in the Division of Veterinary Medicine at SKUAST-J, visited Melbourne, Australia, from July 8 to July 12, 2024, to present a paper at the Congress organized by the Australasian Association of Animal Science and the Asian-Australian Association of Animal Production.

Dr. Mandeep Singh Azad, SMS at the Directorate of Extension, attended the UFAW International Animal Welfare Conference in Portugal from July 10 to July 11, 2024

Dr. Zuhaib Fayaz Bhat, Associate Professor in the Division of LPT, travelled to France from September 15 to September 29, 2024, to participate in the Scientific High-Level Visiting Fellowship 2024.

Participation in International Training (Online)

Dr. Mahital Jamwal, Associate Director Research, attended AARDO-MARDI Online International Training Programme on "Agricultural Nanotechnology: Catalysing Food Security and Sustainability" on 1-5 July 2024, organized by African-Asian Rural Development Organization (AARDO), New Delhi, in collaboration with Malaysian Agricultural Research and Development Institute (MARDI), Malaysia.



Student Corner

Sayonara 2k24 celebrated in Urja Girls Hostel

"Sayonara 2k24," a farewell event for the final-year undergraduate and postgraduate students of Urja Girls Hostel, SKUAST-Jammu, was celebrated on July 12, 2024. The Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Dr. B.N. Tripathi, Dr. Hema Tripathi, graced the occasion as Chief Guests, alongside r Hema Tripathi, Dean of Student Welfare, Dr. Sudhakar Dwivedi, Dr. Reeta Dwivedi, and Hostel Warden Dr. Puja Rattan as Special Guests. The evening was filled with fun games and a DJ night, creating a vibrant and memorable farewell for the hostel boarders.



Fresher's Party at Ujala Hostel

A freshers' party was held at Ujala Girls Hostel, SKUAST-J, Chatha, on August 10, 2024, to welcome new students. The event was graced by Vice Chancellor Dr. B.N. Tripathi, First Lady Dr. Hema Tripathi, and Guest of Honour Dr. Sudhakar Dwivedi, along with other dignitaries. Warden Dr. Shilpa Sood warmly welcomed the guests with floral bouquets, and the event began with a lamp-lighting ceremony. The freshers participated in a ramp walk and introduced themselves, with Miss Ankita Kapoor winning the title of Miss Fresher. The evening featured solo songs, dances, and a Himachali group performance. The



dignitaries praised the students for their efforts, offered encouragement, and were presented with plants as tokens of respect. Dr. Shilpa Sood gave a vote of thanks, and the event concluded with a cake-cutting ceremony, followed

by dinner and a DJ party for the dignitaries and boarders.

Urja Hostel Celebrates Ganesh Chaturthi with Joy and Tradition

The boarders of Urja Hostel celebrated Ganesh Chaturthi from September 7th to 11th, 2024, to mark a positive start to the new session. A Ganesh statue was brought to the hostel



on September 7th, followed by five days of rituals. The celebration concluded with a "Shobha Yatra" procession through the university campus, featuring dhol, colors, and flowers, before the visarjan on September 11th at 6:00 PM. Students from both Urja and Ujala hostels

participated in the event.



SKUAST-Jammu Flags Off Educational Tour for Veterinary Students to Kashmir and Ladakh

HVC Prof. B.N. Tripathi, along with Prof. Rajesh Katoch, Dean of the Faculty of Veterinary Sciences, flagged off a 10-day educational tour for 65 veterinary students. Coordinated by Dr. Pervaiz Dar and Dr. Mohd Yaqoob Wani, the tour aims to provide students with exposure to the unique challenges and opportunities in the high-altitude regions of Kashmir and Ladakh.

The students visited key institutions, including SKUAST-Kashmir, the Sheep & Goat Research Station in Shuhama, and the High-Altitude Agriculture Research Institute in Leh. This tour was a part of SKUAST-Jammu's commitment to hands-on learning, allowing students to interact with local communities and observe high-altitude veterinary practices. Prof. Tripathi emphasized the importance of such tours in broadening students' perspectives and inspiring innovative solutions for veterinary challenges in high-altitude regions..

THE DEAN'S INSIGHT : WHERE VISION MEETS VOICE



Dr Vikas Tandon
Dean, Faculty of Horticulture

"Our modern research facilities, highly qualified faculty and strong industry connections provide students with the tools to succeed in horticulture. Through hands-on learning and internships, we cultivate future leaders in sustainable horticulture, focussing on protected cultivation of high-value crops. The passion for innovation and sustainability among our students reflects the success of our programs."



Dr Anil Kumar
Dean, Faculty of Agriculture

"I am proud to see our students excel not only in academics but also in their contributions to society. They are the torch bearers of sustainable agricultural practices and are poised to become innovators as well as leaders in the field. I am confident that their determination and expertise will lead them to great success and have a significant impact in agricultural sector as a whole."



Dr Rajesh Katoch
Dean, FVSC & AH

"Our veterinary graduates are excelling in both theoretical understanding and practical application, making significant strides in academics, research and clinical practices. They actively participate in fieldwork, internships, and outreach programs reflecting their dedication to improving animal welfare and public health, making impactful contributions to the field reflects the success of our programs."



Dr Jaswinder Singh Soodan
Dean, Faculty of Dairy Technology

The Faculty of Dairy Technology was established in year 2022 with a vision to contribute towards a prosperous dairy sector and expedite socio-economic change by producing skilled human resource and entrepreneurs through technological adaptation and creating Centre of Excellence in Dairy Technology and Research. The Faculty is also collaborating with the industry to enhance skill development of graduates."



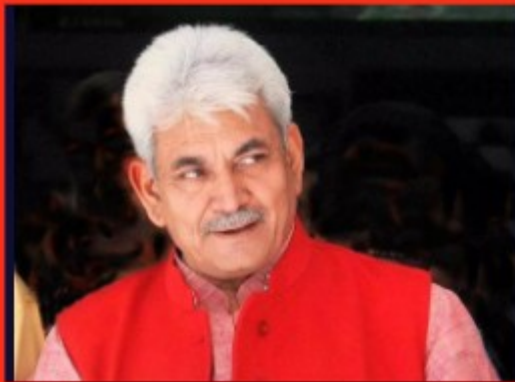
Dr S.E.Z. Rizvi
Dean, Faculty of Basic Sciences

Faculty of Basic Sciences provides learning platform in basic and applied sciences and is committed to provide high-quality education, research, & innovation in Biochemistry, Statistics, Plant Physiology and Microbiology. Faculty has latest scientific equipments supported by ICI. Several MoUs have been made with scientific institutions in order to enhance research and training opportunities for students and staff."



Dr Sushil Sharma
Dean, Agricultural Engineering

Our mission is to train students in cutting-edge technologies and their application in agriculture. This will enable precision farming, optimizing inputs applied at the right time to maximize crop production & productivity. We aim to automate agricultural operations, reduce environmental risks, and enhance profitability, equipping our graduates to lead the future of sustainable and innovative agriculture."



J&K has diverse agro-climatic zones which provide ample scope for adopting farm level diversifications. With the scientific solutions, we can mitigate the impact of climatic change and will be able to generate higher farm revenue from the same piece of land.

Shri Manoj Sinha
Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor
Jammu & Kashmir

Budget 2024 for catalyzing agricultural transformation: an article written by HVC

Skill training programme for farmers organized by SKUAST Jammu

Dr B N Tripathi, SKUAST Jammu

EXCELSIOR

Budget 2024 for catalyzing agricultural transformation

The Union Budget 2024 has allocated a significant portion for agricultural development, which is a welcome move. The budget focuses on skill training, infrastructure, and research, which are crucial for the growth of the agricultural sector. The training programme organized by SKUAST Jammu aims to equip farmers with modern skills and knowledge, enabling them to adopt advanced farming techniques and improve their productivity. The budget also emphasizes the need for better infrastructure, such as roads and irrigation systems, to facilitate the transport of agricultural produce and reduce post-harvest losses. Furthermore, the allocation for research and development is expected to lead to the discovery of new crop varieties and sustainable farming practices, which will be beneficial for the long-term health of the soil and the environment. Overall, the 2024 budget provides a strong foundation for the agricultural sector's growth and transformation.

One-Day farmer training programme on organic, natural farming held Chatha

The training programme was held in Chatha, Jammu, and was attended by a large number of farmers. The programme focused on the importance of organic and natural farming, which is not only better for the environment but also for the health of the consumers. The trainers discussed various aspects of organic farming, including soil health, pest management, and the use of natural resources. The farmers expressed their interest in learning more about these practices and how they can be implemented on their farms. The programme was a success, and it is expected that the farmers will be able to adopt these practices and improve their yields and the quality of their produce.

Training camp for farmers organized in Reasi

The training camp was organized in Reasi, Jammu, and was attended by a large number of farmers. The camp focused on various aspects of farming, including soil health, pest management, and the use of natural resources. The trainers discussed the importance of maintaining the health of the soil and the environment, and how this can be achieved through the use of organic and natural farming practices. The farmers expressed their interest in learning more about these practices and how they can be implemented on their farms. The camp was a success, and it is expected that the farmers will be able to adopt these practices and improve their yields and the quality of their produce.

ABIC, SKUAST-J organizes Sensitization Prog

The sensitization programme was organized by ABIC and SKUAST-J, and was attended by a large number of farmers. The programme focused on the importance of organic and natural farming, which is not only better for the environment but also for the health of the consumers. The trainers discussed various aspects of organic farming, including soil health, pest management, and the use of natural resources. The farmers expressed their interest in learning more about these practices and how they can be implemented on their farms. The programme was a success, and it is expected that the farmers will be able to adopt these practices and improve their yields and the quality of their produce.

Veterinary Student's Educational Tour flagged off

The educational tour was flagged off by the Veterinary Students of SKUAST Jammu. The tour was a part of the university's ongoing efforts to provide practical training and exposure to the students. The tour was organized in collaboration with the Veterinary Department, and it is expected that the students will be able to gain valuable insights into the challenges and opportunities in the field of veterinary medicine. The tour was a success, and it is expected that the students will be able to apply the knowledge and skills they have gained during the tour to their future careers.

Experts from USA, CUJ & JU sensitize students of SKUAST-J on AI, Machine learning

The sensitization programme was organized by experts from the USA, CUJ, and JU, and was attended by a large number of students of SKUAST-J. The programme focused on the importance of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning in the field of agriculture. The trainers discussed various aspects of AI and Machine Learning, including their applications in crop production, pest management, and soil health. The students expressed their interest in learning more about these technologies and how they can be used to improve the efficiency and productivity of the agricultural sector. The programme was a success, and it is expected that the students will be able to apply the knowledge and skills they have gained during the programme to their future careers.

SKUAST-Jammu inks Memorandum of Understanding with CIIT

The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between SKUAST-Jammu and CIIT. The MoU is a landmark agreement that will facilitate the exchange of knowledge and expertise between the two institutions. The MoU covers various areas, including research, training, and infrastructure development. The signing of the MoU is a testament to the commitment of both institutions to promote the growth and development of the agricultural sector. The MoU is expected to lead to a number of collaborative projects and initiatives, which will be beneficial for the long-term health and prosperity of the agricultural sector.

SKUAST-J inks MoU with Bayer Crop Science

The MoU was signed between SKUAST-Jammu and Bayer Crop Science. The MoU is a landmark agreement that will facilitate the exchange of knowledge and expertise between the two institutions. The MoU covers various areas, including research, training, and infrastructure development. The signing of the MoU is a testament to the commitment of both institutions to promote the growth and development of the agricultural sector. The MoU is expected to lead to a number of collaborative projects and initiatives, which will be beneficial for the long-term health and prosperity of the agricultural sector.

ABI, SKUAST-J organizes sensitization prog

The sensitization programme was organized by ABI and SKUAST-J, and was attended by a large number of farmers. The programme focused on the importance of organic and natural farming, which is not only better for the environment but also for the health of the consumers. The trainers discussed various aspects of organic farming, including soil health, pest management, and the use of natural resources. The farmers expressed their interest in learning more about these practices and how they can be implemented on their farms. The programme was a success, and it is expected that the farmers will be able to adopt these practices and improve their yields and the quality of their produce.

Plantation Drive for Beau Centre for Organic, Nat. Farming at SKUAST-Jammu

The plantation drive was organized by the Beau Centre for Organic and Natural Farming at SKUAST-Jammu. The drive was a part of the university's ongoing efforts to promote the growth and development of the agricultural sector. The drive was organized in collaboration with the Beau Centre, and it is expected that the students will be able to gain valuable insights into the challenges and opportunities in the field of organic and natural farming. The drive was a success, and it is expected that the students will be able to apply the knowledge and skills they have gained during the drive to their future careers.

KVK Jammu organises training programme on 'Scientific Management of Dairy Animals'

The training programme was organized by KVK Jammu, and was attended by a large number of farmers. The programme focused on the scientific management of dairy animals, which is crucial for the growth and development of the dairy sector. The trainers discussed various aspects of dairy farming, including the selection of breeds, nutrition, and health management. The farmers expressed their interest in learning more about these practices and how they can be implemented on their farms. The programme was a success, and it is expected that the farmers will be able to adopt these practices and improve their yields and the quality of their produce.

A training programme in progress at village Shehar

The training programme is in progress at the village of Shehar. The programme is a part of the university's ongoing efforts to provide practical training and exposure to the students. The programme is organized in collaboration with the local community, and it is expected that the students will be able to gain valuable insights into the challenges and opportunities in the field of agriculture. The programme is a success, and it is expected that the students will be able to apply the knowledge and skills they have gained during the programme to their future careers.

SKUAST-Jammu visits RS Pura campus of F. of Veterinary Sciences & Animal Husbandry

The visit was organized by SKUAST-Jammu, and was attended by a large number of students and faculty members. The visit was a part of the university's ongoing efforts to promote the growth and development of the agricultural sector. The visit was organized in collaboration with the Faculty of Veterinary Sciences and Animal Husbandry, and it is expected that the students will be able to gain valuable insights into the challenges and opportunities in the field of veterinary medicine. The visit was a success, and it is expected that the students will be able to apply the knowledge and skills they have gained during the visit to their future careers.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- **National Symposium on Exploring Veterinary Pathology and Diagnostic Innovations in Animal and Poultry Diseases and Climatic Changes from 28 to 30 November 2024 at Sher-e Kashmir, University of Agricultural sciences, Jammu**
- **National Agriculture Summit on the theme Harnessing Innovations in Agriculture and Allied Sciences from 20th to 23 November 2024 at Sher-e Kashmir, University of Agricultural sciences, Jammu**

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