

ANGRAU e-NEWSletter



Vol. 9(1), 2025 January-March, 2025

A Quarterly Publication

Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University, Lam, Guntur - 522 034

From the Vice-Chancellor's Desk

ANGRAU, Guntur in all its 60 years of indomitable service and spirit has yet again crossed many milestones. I sincerely express my gratitude and respects to Sri Nara Chandrababu Naidu garu, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh for releasing the ANGRAU Almanac 'Vyavasaya Panchangam' for the year 2025-26 on the festive occasion of Ugadi. I also bestow my reverence to Sri Kinjarapu Atchannaidu garu, Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture, Cooperation, Marketing, Animal Husbandry, Dairy Development and Fisheries for releasing the ANGRAU Diary and Calendar for the year 2025. In the first quarter of this year 2025, it was indeed prideful for ANGRAU to witness the graceful presence of many renowned dignitaries in most of its endeavours viz; Dr.D.K.Yadava, D.D.G (CS), ICAR, New Delhi; Sri Somireddy Chandramohan Reddy, Hon'ble MLA, Sarvepalli; Sri S.Dilli Rao, IAS, Director of Agriculture, A.P., to mention a few.

On the research front, the quarter started on a fruitful note with the 54th Research and Extension Advisory Council meeting which was held in a grand manner. Two prestigious entities, ANGRAU and Central Institute for Cotton Research, Nagpur, collaboratively organised the Annual Group meeting-2025 on Cotton (AICRP) with the motto 'Shaping the future of cotton cultivation in India'. Numerous workshops and trainings in contemporary areas such as Biotechnology applications for crop improvement, Data verification for kharif and data uploading for rabi-2024-25, Organic farming; Millets promotion and processing, Start-ups immersion programmes etc. were successfully organised by various research units of ANGRAU.

On the extension front, focussing on the empowerment of small and marginal farmers, two Kisan melas, one at A.R.S. Ghantasala and another at A.R.S.Nellore were organized to showcase the latest varieties and technologies to the farmers of Andhra Pradesh. Also, the Scientific Advisory Committee and District Level Coordination Committee meetings commenced in a befitting manner under the guidance of the Director of Extension, ANGRAU. I commend the efforts of the Directorate of Extension,



ANGRAU for the timely release of the Diary, Calendar and Vyavasaya Panchangam for the year 2025-26.

The Teaching wings of ANGRAU deserve appreciation for meticulous planning and execution of examinations and spot evaluations of undergraduate courses. ICAR short course for faculty development on Experimental data analysis using R software was organised by the Department of Statistics & Computer applications, Agricultural college, Bapatla wherein 24 candidates from various SAUs/ICAR institutes from different states participated. It was indeed a privilege for me to inaugurate the Alumni house (1st Floor) of Agricultural college, Bapatla in the most traditional manner in presence of University officers, alumni and students of ANGRAU. Also, it is commendable that a jubilant atmosphere was created in some of the colleges by organising Sports and Cultural meet for both staff and students.

During this quarter, various important events such as 76th Republic Day (26th January, 2025) and International Women's Day (8th March, 2025) were celebrated with fervour and enthusiasm by ANGRAU teaching and non-teaching staff. Also, I am happy that ANGRAU has welcomed dignitaries from other national institutions and renowned scientists from reputed universities in other countries to share their views and facilitate cross learning with our faculty and students. My sincere appreciation to the scientists who have stood out and received accolades on various platforms in this quarter and hope that all scientists working in Teaching, Research and Extension wings of ANGRAU will continue to make earnest efforts to enhance the glory of this great University and take it to new heights.

(R. SARADA JAYALAKSHMI DEVI)



Vyavasaya Panchangam 2025-2026 Released Prestigiously by the Hon'ble Chief Minister

ANGRAU publishes *Vyavasaya Panchangam* (Agriculture Almanac) every year that covers updated package of practices of all crops in telugu language and the book is popular among the farming community and other stake holders in Agriculture. Sri Nara Chandrababu Naidu Garu, Hon'ble Chief Minister, Govt. of A.P. released the book on the occasion of Telugu New Year festival (*Ugadi*) on 30.03.2025 in the presence of Sri. Anam Ramnarayana Reddy, Hon'ble Minister for Endowments, Sri. Kandula Durgesh, Hon'ble Minister for Tourism, Culture and Youth advancement; Sri Kolusu Parthasarathy, Minister for Housing, Information and Public Relations of A.P. and other dignitaries. Also, Dr. R. Sarada Jayalakshmi Devi, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, ANGRAU along with the University officers Dr. G. Ramachandra Rao, Registrar; Dr. P. V. Satyanarayana, the Director of Research; Dr. G. Sivanarayana, Director of Extension; Dr. Ch. Sreenivasa Rao, Dean of Agriculture,

Dr. A. Mani, Dean of Agricultural Engineering; Dr. V. Karuna Sagar, Dean of Student's Affairs and Dr. B. Sreelakshmi, Dean of Community science participated in the release event during *Ugadi* Celebrations at Thummalapalli Kalakshetram, Vijayawada. Three progressive farmers and three scientists selected with outstanding contributions in the field of Agriculture were awarded mementos and certificates by the Hon'ble Chief Minister. Dr. Sesha Mahalakshmi, Professor (Academic), O/o Dean of Agriculture, Lam, Guntur, Dr. M. Madhava, Associate Dean, College of Food Science and Technology, Pulivendula and Dr. V. Bhuvaneswari, Principal Scientist (Plant Pathology), Regional Agricultural Research Station, Maruteru, received the Best Scientist awards while Sri. K. V. Suryanarayana Raju, Denkada Village, Vizianagaram district, Sri. Nalluri Rambabu, Unguturu village, Palnadu district and Sri. Panditi Krishnamurthy, Mamillipalli village, Y.S.R. Kadapa district were honoured in the Best farmers category awards.

Grand Release of ANGRAU Diary and Calendar for the year 2025

Sri. Kinjarapu Atchannaidu, Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture; Cooperation, Marketing, Animal husbandry, Dairy development and Fisheries released the ANGRAU Diary and Calendar for the year 2025 in presence of Dr. R. Sarada Jayalakshmi Devi, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, ANGRAU and other University officers. The

event was organised at camp office, Irrigation guest house, Vijayawada on 02.01.2025. Post release of ANGRAU diaries and calendars, Hon'ble Minister extended warm wishes to the scientists and staff of ANGRAU and urged everyone to work towards the benefit of farming community.



Kisan Mela Organized in all Splendour by Agricultural Research Station, Ghantasala

Kisan Mela was organized on February 18, 2025, at Agricultural Research Station, Ghantasala (Krishna Zone), Krishna district, with the theme “Rice Fallow Pulses Cultivation – Challenges and Future Endeavors.” The event was graced by Dr. R. Sarada Jayalakshmi Devi, Hon’ble Vice-Chancellor of ANGRAU as the chief guest and Sri D.K. Balaji, IAS, Collector & District Magistrate of Krishna District as the special guest. Other distinguished guests were Dr. G. Sivanarayana, Director of Extension, ANGRAU & Chairman of Kisan Mela, Dr. P.V. Satyanarayana, Director of Research, ANGRAU, Smt N. Padmavathi, DOA, Krishna District and Dr. N.V.V.S. Durga Prasad, Associate Director of Research, RARS, Lam.

Dr. R. Sarada Jayalakshmi Devi, Hon’ble Vice-Chancellor, ANGRAU highlighted the research focus on developing suitable rice fallow pulse varieties and suitable technologies for the regional farming preferences. Dr.



GSivanarayana, Director of Extension, ANGRAU & Chairman of Kisan Mela,

underlined the importance of Kisan Melas in enhancing farmer awareness and technology transfer through Research stations, KVKs and DAATTCs. Dr. P. V. Satyanarayana, Director of Research briefed about the newly released varieties and technologies developed in different crops in the exhibition stalls and in the farm to the distinguished guests.

Principal Scientists of various crops, disciplines, District Agriculture and Horticulture Officers and Natural Farming ICRP staff were key participants. Farmers from Krishna and Guntur districts actively engaged in discussions on challenges and future prospects in rice fallow pulses cultivation. The event served as a vital platform for knowledge exchange, innovation and collaboration in the agricultural sector. About sixteen hundred participants including farmers, students, scientists, Agriculture department personnel, private industrial staff, press and media attended the Kisan Mela. Thirty seven exhibition stalls set up by ANGRAU and private companies showcased the advanced agricultural technologies, seed varieties, drones for farming applications and agricultural machinery.



National Seminar Flyer launched by Hon’ble Vice-Chancellor

On the 5th of March, 2025 Hon’ble Vice-Chancellor of ANGRAU Dr. R. Sarada Jayalakshmi Devi launched the National Seminar Flyer of AP Chapter of Indian Society of Agronomy along with Dr. G. Karuna Sagar, Dean of Student Affairs & Chairman of AP Chapter of ISA and Dr. M. Bharatha Lakshmi, University Head (Agronomy) & Vice-Chairman of AP Chapter of ISA. All the University Officers of ANGRAU and the official executive body and members of AP Chapter of ISA, ANGRAU participated in the release of National Seminar Flyer.

The Andhra Pradesh Chapter of Indian Society of Agronomy, Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University first of its kind in the State of Andhra Pradesh has proposed to organize National Level Seminar on “Climate Smart Innovations to Address the Current Agronomic Challenges” scheduled from 13th - 14th May, 2025 at Tirupati. The seminar is mainly aimed to bring together a common platform for researchers, policy makers of Government and Private Sector, NGOs, P.G.



and Ph.D.students along with progressive farmers both at State as well as National level, to discuss on research outcomes, the successful initiatives for development of Agriculture by State, Central governments, NGOs etc, latest technological interventions adopted in different states, policy support needed to support farmers and to enhance the farm income. Opportunities emanating to convert as production hubs of nutritious cereals, pulses, oilseeds, diversified land use promotion for mitigation of climate change impact would be discussed extensively. Proceedings of the conference would be brought out to provide a direction for productivity enhancement in the years to come for secured livelihoods and enhanced farm income.

Annual Group Meeting 2025 on Cotton (AICRP) 'Shaping the Future of Cotton Cultivation in India'

The Annual Group Meeting (AGM) 2025 on cotton was successfully organized by the ICAR-Central Institute of Cotton Research (ICAR-CICR) in collaboration with Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University (ANGRAU). The event took place from March 21 to March 23, 2025, at the Regional Agricultural Research Station (R.A.R.S.), Lam, Guntur. The workshop brought together leading scientists, seed companies and other key stakeholders from across the nation to discuss and deliberate on the latest research, technological advancements, and scientific interventions aimed at boosting cotton production, improving productivity and enhancing the financial security of cotton farmers.



The formal inaugural session of the workshop saw the gracious presence of Dr. D.K. Yadava, DDG(CS), Indian Council of Agricultural Research, as the Chief guest. In his address, he congratulated the organisers for effectively organizing the meet and hoped for fruitful outcomes from the deliberations. The Introductory session of the meeting was presided over by Dr. Sarada Jayalakshmi Devi, Hon'ble Vice- Chancellor of ANGRAU, in presence of notable dignitaries, Dr. C.D. Mayee, Chairman of the Project Monitoring and Advisory Committee on Cotton, Dr. Prasanta Kumar Dash, Assistant Director General (Commercial Crops) of the Crop Science Division at ICAR, Dr. Y.G. Prasad, Director of ICAR-CICR, Nagpur, Dr. S.K. Shukla, Director of ICAR-CIRCOT, Mumbai, Dr. P.V. Satyanarayana, Director of Research, ANGRAU and other University officers.

Dr. Sarada Jaya Lakshmi Devi delivered the chairman's address, welcoming the distinguished guests and emphasizing the critical role of Bt cotton in India's cotton cultivation. She highlighted how Bt cotton has played a pivotal role in reducing pesticide consumption by effectively controlling the cotton bollworms, thereby ensuring better yields for farmers. In his welcome address, Dr. P.V. Satyanarayana stressed the importance of the annual group meeting in shaping future policies, particularly in light of India's growing dependence on cotton imports. With annual imports exceeding 3 million bales, Dr. Satyanarayana called for urgent interventions to reduce the country's reliance on imported cotton and enhance domestic production.



Dr. Y.G. Prasad, Director of ICAR-Central Institute of Cotton Research, Nagpur, emphasized the importance of the annual group meet in analyzing the results of cotton trials from the previous year. This data, according to Dr. Prasad, is vital for formulating future policy decisions, especially regarding the DUS (Distinctness, Uniformity, and Stability) standards and plant variety protection. During the meeting, certificates were awarded to the best AICRP Centre (PAU, Ludhiana) and two scientists of AICRP (Cotton) who received patents for their outstanding research. Later, the outstanding contributions and dedicated service of Dr. Y.G. Prasad, Director of ICAR-CICR, Nagpur who would be retiring from services, was acknowledged with a grand felicitation by ANGRAU, CICR-AICRP (Cotton) and RARS, Lam along with three other AICRP scientists who were soon to be retiring from their services. To mark this event, a number of publications on cotton were released by the Chief guest and dignitaries.

The 54th REAC Meeting Held in a Befitting Manner



The 54th Research and Extension Advisory Council Meeting of Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University was conducted on 8th and 9th January, 2025 at Krishna Auditorium, RARS, Lam, Guntur under the Chairmanship of Dr. R. Sarada Jayalakshmi Devi, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, ANGRAU. Sri S. Dilli Rao, I.A.S., Director of Agriculture, Andhra Pradesh graced the inaugural programme as the Chief guest. University Officers of ANGRAU, Research and Extension Advisory Council members, innovative farmers, Associate Directors of Research of all the six zones, Principal Scientists of crops/disciplines, University Heads of Departments and Heads of different extension units participated in the two-day programme.

Sri S. Dilli Rao, I.A.S., Director of Agriculture, Andhra Pradesh, in his address emphasized the need to focus on innovative research rather than conventional regional research. Dr. R. Sarada Jayalakshmi Devi, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, spoke on the occasion and said that 19 improved crop varieties were released,

including 9 at the state level and 10 at the national level. Similarly, in 2024, five varieties from ANGRAU were released and notified at the national level. She further added that all breeders should make efforts to popularize the newly released varieties. Dr. P.V. Satyanarayana, Director of Research, ANGRAU presented the highlights of the research work conducted during the year 2023-24 in six agro climatic zones of ANGRAU along with future research strategies. Dr. G. Sivanarayana, Director of Extension, ANGRAU presented the extension highlights for the year 2023-24 pertaining to 13 DAATTCs, 13 KVKs and Extension Specialists of Regional Agricultural Research Stations.

Dr. G. Ramachandra Rao, Registrar; Dr. A. S. Rao, Director of Research (Rtd.); Dr. P. Rambabu, Director of Extension (Rtd.); Dr. R.P. Vasanthi, Principal Scientist & UHOD (GPBR) (Rtd.); Dr. M.V. Prasad, Principal Scientist (Extn); Dr. Polumetla Anand Kumar, Professor & UHOD (Biotechnology) (Rtd.) graced the inaugural programme and delivered their valuable remarks and suggestions.

To commemorate the occasion, Books/ Booklets/ Apps published / developed by the scientists of ANGRAU were released by the dignitaries viz; Research and Extension Highlights of 2023-24 ; Integrated Pest Management for Rat control by RARS, Maruteru ; Best management practices in cotton, RARS, Lam ; Natural farming for sustainable future by KVK, Nellore and ANGRAU-ASR mobile App by DAATTC, Paderu. Best Research station/KVK/ DAATTC awards were presented to RARS, Lam; ARS, Ragolu; KVK, Kondempudi and DAATTC, Eluru respectively. The inaugural programme concluded with felicitation of identified farmers with notable contributions in agriculture followed by felicitation of the chief guest, Sri S. Dilli Rao, I.A.S., Director of Agriculture, A.P by Dr. R. Sarada Jayalakshmi Devi, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, ANGRAU.



Kisan Mela with a theme on “Modern Technology and Profitable Agriculture” was organized in a grand manner at Agricultural Research Station, Nellore for Southern Zone on 14.02.2025. Sri Somireddy Chandramohan Reddy garu, Hon’ble MLA, Sarvepalli, graced the occasion as Chief Guest of the programme. The program was presided over by Dr. P.V. Satyanarayana, Director of Research, ANGRAU, Lam, Guntur. The programme started with the University song



“Modern Low Cost Technologies is the Need for Small and Marginal Farmers” said Sri Somireddy Chandramohan Reddy Garu, Hon’ble MLA, Sarvepalli.

and lighting the lamp, followed by inauguration of exhibition stalls by the Chief guest. While addressing the farmers, Sri Somireddy Chandramohan Reddy garu remembered the major achievements in the field of Agriculture by the Government of Andhra Pradesh during his ministry in agriculture.

Dr. G. Sivanarayana, Director of Extension, ANGRAU, Guntur and Dr. V. Damodara Naidu, Former Vice-Chancellor, ANGRAU participated as special guests. Dr. V. Sumathi, Associate Director of Research, RARS, Tirupati, Dr. U. Vineetha, Principal Scientist and Head, ARS, Nellore, Sri P. Ram Mohan Reddy, Member, REAC, ANGRAU, Guntur, Sri. P. Sudhakar, Corporator, 17th Division, Nellore, Dr. C. Somayya, DD, VPC, Sri. Prasada Rao, DAO, Tirupati, Smt. P. Satyavani, DAO, Nellore, Sri. M.V. Subba Reddy, DHO, Nellore, Sri. A. Balasubramanian, Associate Dean, College of Fishery Science, Muthukur, Nellore, Sri. Bommi Surendra, AP State TDP Secretary, Sri. Radhakrishna Naidu, State Farmer General Secretary, Sri. P. Ram Mohan Reddy, Mandal TDP President, Muthukur, Sri. Vemareddy Surendranath Reddy, BJP Kisan Morcha State Chief Secretary, Smt. Rajeswaramma, Chairman of BJP,



Rashtra Mahila Morcha, A.P., Sri. Koti Reddy, Rytu Sangham Chairman, Nellore graced the event. Dr. Ramachandrudu, Principal Scientist, Indian Institute of Oil Palm Research, Pedavegi, West Godavari, Dr. T. Madhumathi, Principal Scientist & Head, Citrus Research Station, Tirupati, Dr. D. Srinivasulu Reddy, Programme Coordinator, KVK, Periyavaram, Dr. V. Anand Prasad, Assistant Professor, College of Fishery Science, Muthukur, Nellore, Dr. Girija Rani, PS (Rice), RARS, Maruteru, Dr. P. Mohan Reddy, PS (Pulses), Dr. C. Ramana, PS (Farm Mechanization), Dr. T. Murali Krishna, PS & UHOD (Entomology), Dr. Prathibhasri, PS (Weed Management), and Sri. Sumanth Hulla, Chairman, Kisan Kraft also participated in the event. Publications in telugu on Paddy varieties (ARS Nellore); Banana cultivation (KVK Utukur); Research on pesticides and weedicides residues (RARS, Tirupati); Pulses crop management (ARS Podalakur); Parthenium management and Horsegram (KVK, Kalikiri) were released on the occasion.

All the dignitaries, Principal Scientists, scientists, farmers, teaching staff and students of Agril. polytechnic College, Podalakur visited the stalls arranged by ANGRAU, Department of Horticulture, Micro Irrigation, KVK Periyavaram from Horticultural University, APSPDCL, APCNF, Nellore, Nationalized banks, M/s. Kisan Kraft, M/s. Prakash Agros, Nellore, Adama India Pvt. Ltd, M/s. Coromandel International Ltd, etc., and also viewed live demonstrations of the spraying of plant protection chemicals using drone technology and the crop cafeteria maintained by Agricultural Research Station, Nellore. A total of 75 stalls were exhibited in the Kisan Mela.

76th Republic Day Celebrated with Pride and Fervor

The 76th Republic Day celebrations were held in the lawns of IAB building, Administrative Office, Lam, Guntur. Dr. R. Sarada Jayalakshmi Devi, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor was received with full respects by the student NCC cadets. Later, she offered floral tributes to the portrait of Mahatma Gandhiji followed by the faculty members and non-teaching staff who also paid floral tributes to the Father of the Nation. Later, the Vice - Chancellor hoisted the tricolour national flag and addressed the gathering regarding the theme of the 76th Republic Day "Swarnim Bharat - Virasat AurVikas" (Golden India - Heritage and Development) showcasing India's progress in various sectors like technology, infrastructure and cultural heritage. Following the ceremonial flag hoisting, the Vice-Chancellor addressed the gathering and shed light on the recent strides made by the University in agricultural teaching, research and extension. She proudly announced the release of several new crop varieties at national and state level developed by the dedicated team of scientists of ANGRAU.



Vibrant Celebrations of International Women's Day

On March 8th, 2025, Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University (ANGRAU) came alive with the joyful celebrations of International Women's Day on the theme "Accelerate Action". The event was glorified by the esteemed presence of Sri B.Rajasekhar, IAS, Ex-Officio Principal Secretary (Agriculture & Coop.), as the Chief Guest. Dr. R. Sarada Jayalakshmi Devi, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, extended a warm welcome to the Chief Guest. Sri. B.Rajasekhar addressed the gathering with his message that to accelerate action women entrepreneurship must be encouraged in agriculture and allied sectors. In this regard, Government and Banks are extending full support to women, he added. The Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor in her address stressed that change in the mind set of all is the immediate need for women to progress, especially rural women.

Dr.A.Mani, Dean of Agricultural Engineering & Chairman, Women protection cell, ANGRAU and Dr. B.Sreelakshmi, Dean of Community Sciences who attended as special guests, motivated the gathering with their inspiring speeches. To commemorate the special day, identified



women farmers from different zones of the state who have made significant contributions in their fields were invited onto the dais for lamp lighting and were felicitated by the Chief guest. Teaching and non-teaching staff members joined hands to celebrate the achievements of women across India and A.P. The theme of the day resonated deeply, highlighting the contributions of women in various fields. Another highlight of the event was the recognition of the women employees who participated in various fun games organised for the purpose, with winners and runners-up receiving prizes.



“Biotechnology is the Key for Developing Disease Resistant Varieties” said Dr. R. Sarada Jayalakshmi Devi, Hon’ble, Vice- Chancellor, ANGRAU

Workshop on “Biotechnology Applications for Crop Improvement: Key developments” was organised by Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University (ANGRAU), Lam, Guntur in collaboration with Biotech Consortium India Limited (BCIL), New Delhi and Supported by Federation of Seed Industry of India on February 28, 2025 at Krishna Auditorium, Regional Agricultural Research Station, Lam, Guntur. Dr. Sarada Jayalakshmi Devi, Hon’ble Vice-Chancellor, ANGRAU in her opening remarks emphasized the importance of Biotechnology in various crops improvement and progress of Biotechnology in Agriculture. She further enlightened the house on progress of Bt cotton research in ANGRAU and the release of BG II varieties in a few years. Experts at the workshop highlighted the role of Biotechnology in agriculture in boosting productivity and sustainability. The innovations in flood tolerant rice and Bt cotton have improved the resilience and supported the small holding farmers, she added.



Other dignitaries participated were Dr. Paresh Verma, Executive Director, Bioseeds Division, DCM Shriram Limited, Hyderabad ; Dr. Y. G. Prasad, Director, ICAR-Central Institute for Cotton Research (ICAR-CICR), Nagpur; Dr. Vibha Ahuja, Chief General Manager, BCIL, New Delhi; Shri Ram Kaundinya, Advisor, FSII and Co-founder, AGAVYA; Dr. Satendra Kumar Mangrauthia, Senior Scientist, ICAR-Indian Institute of Rice Research (IIRR), Hyderabad; Dr.P.V. Satyanarayana, Director of Research, ANGRAU; Dr. N.V.V.S. Durga Prasad, Associate Director of Research, RARS, Lam, Guntur; University officers, officers of State Department of Agriculture, scientists, research students, industry personnel and farmers.

‘Attendance Recording in m-Tracker APP, Data Verification for *Kharif*, 2024-25 and Data Uploading for *Rabi*, 2024-25’ - Training organised by CSS, ANGRAU

A two-day training programme on ‘Attendance Recording in m-Tracker APP, Data Verification for *Kharif*, 2024-25 and Data Uploading for *Rabi*, 2024-25’ was conducted from 21-22 February, 2025 to the Staff of Cost of Cultivation Scheme, ANGRAU at the RARS, Lam, Guntur.

Dr P.V. Satyanarayana, the Director of Research, ANGRAU and the Chief Guest of the inaugural function addressed the participants by highlighting the importance of CS Scheme in the MSP fixation by the Government of India, through Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices. He further reminded that field investigators are the key pillars of farmers’ economic growth, in view of the importance of the cost data being provided by them through FARMAP, which forms the basis for MSP fixation. Dr. N. V. V. S. Durga Prasad, Associate Director of Research, RARS, Lam and the President of the function informed that such training programmes will help



in cross learning and also to get an opportunity to upgrade their skills and knowledge in data verification and data uploading from time to time. Dr. Y. Radha, Honorary Director and Dr. I. V. Y. Rama Rao, Nodal Officer, CSS, ANGRAU reviewed the zone wise activities during 2024-25 and verified the *kharif* 2024-25 data cluster wise by discussing with the respective Field Supervisors, Statistician, Field Investigators and the Computers to help in minimizing errors at the time of data uploading.

SAC and DLCC Meetings of KVKs and DAATTCs organised

The Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) and District Level Coordination Committee (DLCC) meetings were organised for the Krishi Vigyana Kendras and District Agricultural Advisory Transfer of Technology Centres of ANGRAU including the NGO KVKs in Andhra Pradesh under the leadership of Dr. G.Sivanarayana, Director of Extension, ANGRAU in a befitting manner. Dr. B.Mukunda Rao, Principal Scientist (Extension) and Dr. V. Visalakshmi, Principal Scientist (Entomology), O/o Director of Extension, Administrative Office, ANGRAU, participated in the meetings along with the Director of Extension and reviewed the activities, monitored the action plans and provided technical and management guidance for effective functioning of the centres. The meetings were



organised in all the zones viz; North Coastal zone & HAT zone, Godavari zone, Krishna zone, Southern zone and Scarce rainfall zone of the state during the months of February and March 2025 and were well coordinated by the respective Heads of the centres along with their team of scientists.

The Inter-Polytechnic Sports, Games, Cultural and Literary Meet 2024-25 of Acharya N G Ranga Agricultural University was a remarkable event, held at the Agricultural College, Mahanandi, from 29th January, 2025 to 1st February 2025. The event attracted enthusiastic participation from students across 20 constituent polytechnic colleges, creating an exciting and vibrant atmosphere throughout the four days of festivities. The event was meticulously organized under the



Empowering Students through Sports and Culture: Inter-Polytechnic Sports, Games, Cultural, and Literary Meet 2024-25

leadership of Dr. G. Karuna Sagar, Dean of Students affairs, ANGRAU and supported by Dr. V.Jayalakshmi, the Associate Dean of Agricultural College, Mahanandi. The Chief Guest, Dr. G. Karuna Sagar, Dean of Student affairs, ANGRAU, graced the opening ceremony of Inter-Polytechnic Sports, Games, Cultural, and Literary Meet. In his address, he highlighted the significance of sports in shaping a student's life, emphasizing the development of essential qualities such as teamwork, discipline and perseverance.

The event was also attended by several distinguished guests, such as Dr.N.C.Venkateswarlu, Director of Polytechnic, who emphasised the importance of discipline both in sports and life and also Dr. M. Johnson, ADR, RARS, Nandyal, who spoke passionately about the spirit of sportsmanship. The 29th January 2025, set the stage for a series of exciting sports competitions, cultural performances and literary events. Students from

various colleges showcased their skills in athletes, creativity and literary talents.

The Valedictory Function, held on 1st February 2025, was graced by Anurag Meena, IFS, DFO, Nandyal Division, as the Chief Guest. In his address, the Chief guest passionately spoke about the importance of sports in student life, encouraging participants to continue embracing physical activity as an integral part of their personal and academic growth. In her closing address, Dr. V. Jayalakshmi expressed heartfelt thanks to all the distinguished guests, participants, attendees and staff members who made the event a success. She also extended her gratitude to ANGRAU for giving the Agricultural College, Mahanandi, the opportunity to host such a momentous event. The vote of thanks was delivered by Dr. L. Vijayabhaskar, Professor of Entomology and O.S.A., Agricultural College, Mahanandi.



Joyous mood at S.V. Agricultural College, Tirupati during Teaching Staff Sports, Games, Cultural and Literary Meet

The inaugural function of the Teaching Staff Sports, Games, Cultural, and Literary Meet for the year 2024-25 was held at S.V. Agricultural College, Tirupati on 23.02.2025. Prof. V. Uma, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of Sri Padmavathi Mahila Visvavidyalayam, Tirupati, attended the function as the Chief Guest. The event was presided over by Dr. G. Karuna Sagar, Dean of Student Affairs, ANGRAU. The function was also attended by Dr. V. Sumathi, Associate Director of Research, RARS, Tirupati, as the Guest of Honor. The welcome address was delivered by Dr. M.V. Ramana, Associate Dean, S.V.

Agricultural College, Tirupati. Over 200 teaching staff members from ANGRAU participated in the event. The valedictory function of the Meet held at the auditorium, S.V. Veterinary University, Tirupati on 25.02.2025 saw the graceful presence of Dr. J.V. Ramana, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of S.V. Veterinary University, Tirupati, as the Chief Guest. The event was presided over by Dr. G. Karuna Sagar, Dean of Student Affairs, ANGRAU where Dr. V. Sumathi, Associate Director of Research, RARS, Tirupati, participated as the Guest of Honor.

ICAR Short Course on “Experimental Data Analysis using R software”

On 12th March 2025 the ICAR 10 days Short course on “**Experimental Data Analysis using R software**” organized by the Department of Statistics & Computer Applications, Agricultural College, Bapatla during 12-21, March 2025 was inaugurated by Dr R. Sarada Jayalakshmi Devi, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of Acharya N.G Ranga Agricultural University, Guntur as the Chief Guest and Dr. Cherukuri Sreenivasa Rao, Dean of Agriculture, ANGRAU as the Guest of Honour. Dr P. Prasuna Rani, the Associate Dean of Agricultural College, Bapatla presided over the function which was organized by the Department of Statistics & Computer Applications, Agricultural College, Bapatla. Dr V. Srinivasa Rao, Professor & University Head, Dept. of Statistics & Computer Applications of ANGRAU and the Course Director presented the course report.



Twenty four participants from various SAUs/ICAR Institutes from different disciplines viz; Agriculture, Horticulture, Veterinary, Animal Husbandry, Dairy Technology, Agri-Business Management, Statistics from different states i.e., Karnataka, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Delhi, Andhra Pradesh attended the short course. During the 10 days, the organizers planned the lectures cum hands-on practice using R software on Statistical tools for data analysis. The topics were planned in such a way from Introduction to ‘R’ to advanced Multivariate Techniques. Dr. N. Kiran Prakash, Professor and Dr. D. Ramesh, Assistant Professor, were the Course coordinators of the training programme.

“Awareness on Millets and Exposure visit to Millet Processing Unit”- Training organised

A training programme on “Awareness on Millets and Exposure visit to Millet Processing Unit” under Scheduled Caste Sub Plan 2024-25 of ICAR - AICRP on Sorghum and Small Millets was organized by Dr. S. Kaleemullah, Principal Scientist and University Head, PHETC, Regional Agricultural Research Station, Tirupati at College of Food Science and Technology (CFST), Pulivendula on 24th January, 2025. Thirty Scheduled Caste participants (14 Male and 16 Female) in and around Pulivendula area of YSR Kadapa District registered. Training kit and millets awareness booklet was distributed to the participants.

The training programme started with the technical session of Dr. S. Kaleemullah on the topic “Importance of Millets in Diet”. Dr. M. Kirthy Reddy, Assistant Professor, CFST, Pulivendula delivered a talk on “Processing and Value Addition of Millets”. Later, technical demonstration sessions on Livelihood Business Incubator (LBI) and the preparation of millets value added products like millet cake, millet biscuits, millet



cookies were organised. The Chief Guest of the valedictory program, Dr. M. Madhava, Associate Dean, CFST, Pulivendula complimented the training coordinator for conducting the need based training programme on millets to the SC people at CFST, Pulivendula. Dr. M. Madhava distributed the certificates and millet value added products (1 kg foxtail millet, 1 kg foxtail millet ravva, 1 kg of Ragi malt, Foxtail Millet, Ragi, Sorghum, Pearl millet based sweets, millet savouries) to every participant. Er. S. Nazma Hafeeza concluded the programme with a vote of thanks.

“Value Addition of Millets & Distribution of Food Processing Gadgets”- Training to Empower SC rural women



A training programme on “Value Addition of Millets & Distribution of Food Processing Gadgets” under Scheduled Caste sub plan 2024-25 of ICAR - AICRP on Sorghum and Small Millets was organized by Dr. S. Kaleemullah, Principal scientist and University Head, Post Harvest Engineering and Technology Centre, Regional Agricultural Research Station, Tirupati on 13th March, 2025. The training was organised at R.A.R.S., Tirupati.

Twenty five Scheduled Caste women participants in and around Karvetinagar mandal of Chittoor District registered. The training programme started with an interactive session on the importance and health benefits of millets. Dr. S. Kaleemullah explained the trainees about ingredients and process required for the preparation of biscuits. Mrs. S. Noorjahan, expert in the recipes of snacks and Mrs. M.Raji explained the method of preparation of millet foods.

Dr. V. Sumathi, Associate Director of Research, Regional Agricultural Research Station, Tirupati who was the Chief guest of the valedictory function said that the millet foods are good for health and everyone should consume it at least once every day. The training program kit, food processing gadgets, certificates along with finger millet malt, biscuits, laddus, murukus, pabbilas, ribbons prepared by using sorghum, pear millet and finger millets were provided to the participants by the guests.

Start-ups Immersion Programme by ANGRAU Poshan Incubator

A-IDEA, ICAR-NAARM, Hyderabad, in collaboration with ANGRAU Poshan Incubator and NABARD, AP, RO, organized an Immersion Programme at Tirupati on January 30, 2025. The event aimed to connect Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), Farmer Producer Companies (FPCs) and farmers with innovative start-ups. 14 start-ups (10 were NAARM funded start-ups and 4 were ANGRAU Poshan Incubator funded start-ups) showcased their innovative solutions for agricultural challenges to the FPOs, FPCs representatives and Farmers. Hundred and twenty FPO representatives and farmers from Andhra Pradesh participated. Dignitaries from ICAR-NAARM, ANGRAU, NABARD, and RARS, Tirupati, graced the event. Dr. R. Venkatakumar, Principal Scientist and Head, XSM Division, ICAR-



NAARM, Hyderabad; Sri C. Sunil, DDM, NABARD, Chittoor; Dr. V. Sumathi, Associate Director of Research, RARS, Tirupati and Dr. Kadiri Mohan, PI & CEO, ANGRAU Poshan Incubator and Scientists from RARS, Tirupati, officials from NABARD, NGOs, Cluster Based Business Organisations and representatives from ICAR-NAARM, ANGRAU and other reputed organizations participated.

World Water Day was Celebrated with the theme “Glacier Preservation”

World Water Day was celebrated with the theme “Glacier Preservation” at Dr. NTR College of Food Science & Technology, Bapatla, on March 22, 2025. To mark the event and to create awareness on the importance of water, essay writing competition was organised for the students of the college on the theme ‘Glacier Preservation’. On this occasion, Associate Dean of the College, Dr. M. Sardar Baig said that water is the source of life and without water, there is no life. Keeping water clean and not using it beyond what is needed is the responsibility of everyone who survives on this earth. Dr. P. C. Sai Babu, Secretary, Forum for Better Bapatla said that reducing global warming will increase the temperature of the earth and results in glaciers melting. Chief Guest of the program Smt. A.V. Vijaya Lakshmi, Project Director, District Water



Management Agency, Bapatla highlighted the importance of water and said, reducing water wastage is everyone’s responsibility. Talking about the National Water Mission, it is necessary to conserve rainwater and avoid wasting water, she added. This event was celebrated across all units of ANGRAU.

Skill Training on ‘Organic Farming in Major Crops’ for Tribal Youth



The Regional Agricultural Research Station, Chintapalli in association with ATMA, Visakhapatnam and with financial assistance of SAMETI and MANAGE, Hyderabad organized one week Skill Training of Rural Youth (STRY) programme on Organic farming in major crops from 2nd January 2025 to 8th January 2025 at RARS, Chintapalli. This programme was conducted for 15 trainees from different parts of ASR district with an aim of imparting skills in organic farming for Rural youth of Alluri Sitarama Raju district of Andhra Pradesh comprising the highest tribal population in the state.



Inauguration of Short Film and Gallery Show by Community Science Students

College of Community Science, Department of Human Development and Family Studies, B.Sc. (Hons) 3rd year elective students directed a short film “BEYOND THE MIRROR” – Celebrate the art of being you, in order to project the story of an adolescent girl’s negative self-perception about her beauty but later realizing herself that beauty is not about fitting in the societal standards but beauty is all about talent, Self-confidence and Self-Esteem.

The programme started with the introduction about the short film and prevalence of Self-perception in adolescents followed by the inauguration of short film

by Dr. B. Sreelakshmi, Dean, Community Science and Dr. Bilquis Professor and HOD (HDFS). After the inauguration of the CD of the short film, Dr. B. Sree Lakshmi, Dean, Community Science addressed the students and congratulated them for their best work.

This was followed by exploring the Gallery Show by the students, teachers and Guest of honour and asked them to write compliments for the pictures exhibited. This was intended to change the Self-perception and build Self confidence. Adolescent girls from SVV High school Tadikonda, staff and students of college of community science participated in the event .

U.S.A. Florida University Team of Scientists visited ANGRAU

A five member team of scientists from Florida University, U.S.A, visited ANGRAU on 29.01.2025. Interaction meet with ANGRAU officers was held on the Agricultural situation of both countries, crops grown and cultivation problems which were found similar to India. Thus, mutual coordination in key aspects of research, artificial intelligence, drone technology through student exchange programme that will benefit both countries was discussed by the team. The visiting team comprised of Jescount. M. Gill, Senior Vice-President, Food and Natural Resource; Edtolati Edison, Director of Global Food Systems; Dr. Vijay Gopal Kakani, Professor, Agri-biological Engineering, Dr. Jenmith Judge, Professor, Global food systems institute and Dr. Andrew Jogramulu, Soil, Water and Ecosystems Department. The team visited the drone technology unit of ANGRAU and other

experimental field plots and interacted with the scientists. Dr. R. Sarada Jayalakshmi Devi, Hon’ble Vice-Chancellor, ANGRAU; Dr. G. Ramachandra Rao, Registrar; Director of Research, Dr. P.V. Satyanarayana; Dean of Engineering Dr. A. Mani, Dean of Community sciences Dr. B. Sreelakshmi, Dr. Y. Satish, Director (Seeds), Dr. P. Anil Kumar, Special Officer, APGC and Dr. N.V.S.S. Durga Prasad, A.D.R., RARS, Lam, participated in the interaction.



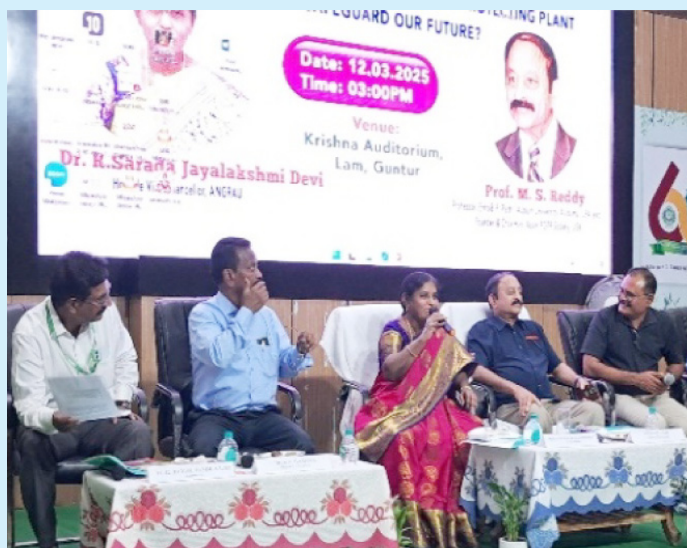
Miss Heidi Arola, Purdue University, USA Visited RARS, Tirupati

Miss. Heidi Arola, Assistant Vice-President, Global Partnership and Programs Director, Purdue-India Partnership, visited RARS, Tirupati on 21st February 2025. She visited the key establishments of RARS, Tirupati viz., ANGRAU Poshan Incubator, Bio-control and Pesticides Residue Lab and Crop improvement divisions. She interacted with the faculty of RARS, Tirupati and discussed on scope of collaborative research on frontier agri technologies. Dr. Ch.Srinivasa Rao, Dean of Agriculture, ANGRAU, Dr. P.Muniratnam, Director, International Programmes, ANGRAU, Sri Vamsi Rayala, CEO, RUSA Projects, Dr.V.Sumathi, Associate Director of Research, RARS, Tirupati and Dr. M.V.Ramana,



Associate Dean, S.V.Agricultural College, Tirupati participated in the interaction.

Professor M.S. Reddy, Auburn University, U.S.A. Visited ANGRAU



Professor M.S. Reddy, Department of Plant Pathology, Auburn University, USA during his visit interacted with the faculty and students of ANGRAU on 12.03.25. Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, ANGRAU, Dr. R.Sarada Jayalakshmi Devi presided over the meet and welcomed him. She said that Dr. Reddy's interaction and view points will be invaluable to the Agriculture science students and widen their perspective on the opportunities in Agriculture in India and abroad. Dr. M.S. Reddy delivered a lecture on "How to overcome Global Emerging issues in protecting plant health to safeguard our future". He also elaborated the recent research initiatives undertaken by the Auburn University and its positive outcomes. The session was attended by the University officers, scientists, P.G. and Ph.D students.

Alumni House at Agricultural College, Bapatla Inaugurated in Jubilance

Agricultural College, Bapatla unveiled the Alumni house (First floor) on March 19th, 2025. Dr. R. Sarada Jayalakshmi Devi, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, along with esteemed dignitaries and alumni, graced the ceremony and inaugurated the new structure. Funded through the generous contributions of alumni of Agriculture college, Bapatla, and maintained by the Alumni Agricultural Graduates Trust (AAGT), the Alumni House stands as a commitment and respect towards the alma mater. Later in the meeting held at Sri B.V. Nath Auditorium, she lauded the collaborative efforts of the alumni, faculty and administration in realizing the project within short time. Dr. M. Prasuna Rani, Associate Dean stated that 2000 sq.m land was allotted for the buildings. Dr. V. Seetha



Rambabu, Treasurer of the AAGT made a presentation about the financial status of the trust. Esteemed alumni; University Officers, Alumni committee members, faculty and students participated.

Extending a hearty welcome to the dignitary Smt.A. Surya Kumari garu, IAS, Dr. M.S.Chaitanya Kumari, Associate Dean of the college briefed the significant achievements of the college in academics, research and extension activities. Since Community Science is a multidisciplinary course, she also oriented on how the Community Science syllabi is connected with the women, children, differently abled and senior citizens. The presidential address was given by Dr. B. Sreelakshmi, Dean of Community Science, ANGRAU. The Chief guest of the programme interacted with the



Smt.A. Surya Kumari, IAS, Secretary to Government, Dept. of Women, Children, Differently abled and Transgender, Senior citizens, A.P., visited Community Science College.

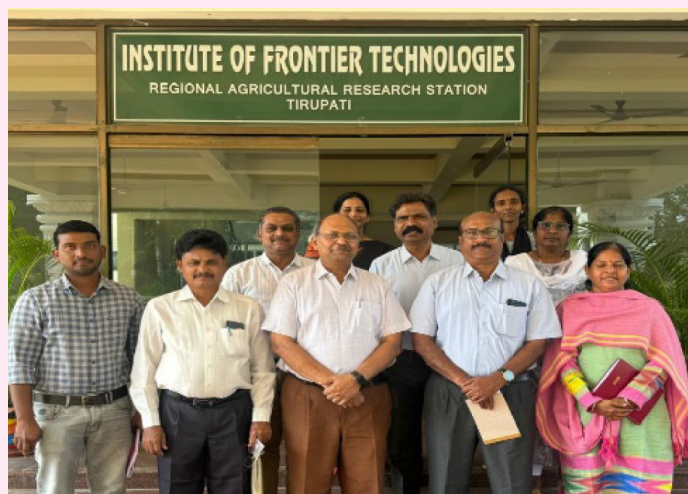
community science students on importance of education duly mentioning her own insights and experience and also discussed various case studies of different people in various situations. She also suggested the students to become Job providers rather than Job seekers.

Technical expo was arranged to showcase the core areas and syllabi of the students in line with department of women, children, differently abled, senior citizens vision

and mission. She visited the stalls on research, extension and academic activities, technologies developed, teaching learning material for ECCE, diet plans for various age groups, ICT Modules for women and child health. The Chief guest critically reviewed and expressed deep satisfaction towards the syllabi, research projects and extension activities carried by the faculty and students of College of Community Science.

Joint Director (Education), ICAR National Institute of Biotic Stress Management, Raipur visited RARS, Tirupati

Dr. Pawan Kumar Agrawal, Joint Director (Education), ICAR National Institute of Biotic Stress Management, Raipur, former Vice-chancellor, OUAT, Bhubaneswar, Odisha and ADG, National Agricultural Science Fund – NASF, ICAR, New Delhi visited RARS, Tirupati. He interacted with the scientists of R.A.R.S., Tirupati and thoroughly discussed various methods of preparing successful project proposals and also enlightened on the different funding sources available to submit the project proposals. He discussed the possibilities of entering MoU with ANGRAU and also emphasized on the possibilities of student and faculty exchange programmes in mutually interested research areas. He visited Institute of Frontier Technologies at R.A.R.S., Tirupati where he was explained about the various ongoing research programmes in the respective laboratories. He was briefed on the achievements of the centre, particularly



with regard to developed groundnut varieties, progress in pesticide residue testing and preparation of soil health cards and nano technologies. Dr.V.Sumathi, Associate Director of Research, R.A.R.S., Tirupati along with all other scientists participated in the interaction that ended on a good note.

Awards and Honours

Dr. Sesha Mahalakshmi, Professor (Academic), O/o Dean of Agriculture, Lam, Guntur, Dr. M. Madhava, Associate Dean, College of Food Science and Technology, Pulivendula and Dr. V. Bhuvaneswari, Principal Scientist (Plt.Pathology), Regional Agricultural Research Station, Maruteru received the **ANGRAU Best Teacher awards** (Ugadi Puraskaralu) by Sri Nara Chandrababu Naidu Garu, Hon'ble Chief Minister, Govt. of A.P during *Ugadi* Celebrations held at Thummalapalli Kalakshetram, Vijayawada on 30.03.25.

Dr.D.Adilakshmi, Principal Scientist (Sugarcane) received “**Best women Scientist**” Award and Dr.P.V. Padmavathi, Scientist (Plant Breeding) received “**Young Scientist Award**” during the 5th International Conference (Hybrid mode) organised by Agri Meet Foundation, at BGGI, Sangrur Punjab (IKG Punjab Technical University) India.

Dr.M.Visalakshi, Principal Scientist (Entomology) & Head, RARS, Anakapalle received **SBA - Dr. Sithanantham awards** for outstanding impact of



Biological Control Research and Development during the Valedictory Function of Second International Conference on Biological Control: Bio-control Contributions to one health (2icbc2025) at Society of Bio-control Advancement in Bengaluru, India

Dr.M.Visalakshi, P.S. (Entomology) & Head, RARS, Anakapalle also received **Certificate of Fellowship** in appreciation and recognition of her outstanding achievements and contributions in the field of biological control of crop pests and diseases admitted to the Fellow of the Society of Biocontrol Advancement in Bengaluru, India.



Other Significant Days celebrated at all units of ANGRAU

- Kaviraju Sri Tripuraneni Ramaswamy Chowdary's 138th Birth Anniversary was celebrated on 15.01.2024
- Fifteenth National Voters Day was organized on 25th January, 2025
- The Birth Anniversary of Late Sri Damodaram Sanjeevaiah Garu, Former Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh was celebrated on 14th February, 2025
- The Vardhanthi of Uyyalawada Narasimha Reddy garu was celebrated on 22nd February, 2025
- World Consumer Rights Day was organised on 15th March, 2025
- World Water Day was organised on 22nd March, 2025
- Sri Puttaparthi Narayanacharyulu Jayanthi was celebrated on 28th March, 2025

Chief Editor : **Dr. O. Sarada**, PAIO, Editor : **Dr. K.S.Purnima**, Sr. Scientist (Ag. Extension)
Published by: Principal Agricultural Information Officer, Agricultural Information and Communication Centre (AI&CC) on behalf of Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University, Lam, Guntur - 522 034
E-mail: enewsletter@angrau.ac.in