

ANGRAU e-NEWSletter



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

From the Vice-Chancellor's Desk

ANGRAU completed 60 years of journey in the year 2023 and entered into a new phase of its unrelenting journey with renewed interest and dedication in the service of farmers. On Teaching front, ANGRAU IDP unit (NAHED-IDP) concluded its five years journey and utilized Rs.2602 lakhs (99.7%) funds allotted to the project in various capacity building activities, infrastructure development and governance reforms leading to greater autonomy and sustained accreditation of the University. College of Community Science, Guntur inked two MOUs with two state Departments of Andhra Pradesh for capacity building of teachers from foundation schools for implementation of National Educational Policy (2020). Moreover, Agricultural College, Bapatla added two significant additions to its infrastructure viz., Agricultural Technology & Information Centre (ATIC) and Alumni House.

On Research front, 53rd REAC meeting was held for two days and research and extension activities for the year 2022-2023 were concluded with major findings deliberated in the council. Furthermore, ANGRAU top management and faculty participated in one-day conference on



“DSR for sustainable and profitable rice production” held at New Delhi on 15th March, 2024.

On Extension front, Kisan Mela was organized at ARS, Anantapuramu in the month of January, 2024 and a total of 1300 farmers participated. Capacity building training programme was organized for extension teaching

staff working in KVKs and DAATTCs on “Recent advances in Crop Production, Protection and Veterinary Sciences” and imparted new knowledge to the field staff. ICAR-ATARI Zone X Director visited KVK, Ghantasala and reviewed the KVK activities and suggested areas for improvement in the KVK’s action plan for ensuing year.

In this quarter, important days such as International Women’s Day (March, 8th, 2024), World Consumer Rights day (15th March, 2024) and World Water Day (22nd March, 2024) were celebrated with fervour and enthusiasm by the staff of ANGRAU.

(R. SARADA JAYALAKSHMI DEVI)

REAC Meeting Held

The 53rd REAC meeting was held on 9th and 10th January, 2024 at Krishna Auditorium, RARS, Lam, Guntur. Dr. R. Sarada Jayalakshmi Devi, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor presided the meeting. In her speech, Hon'ble V-C spoke about 19 high yielding disease & pest resistant varieties recently released at the State and National level in the year 2023. s

Dr. M.V.S. Nagi Reddy, Vice- Chairman, A.P. Agri Mission, the Chief Guest, spoke on the occasion and said that another green revolution needs to be planned by the Govt. of India for an imminent increase in farmer's net income. Sri. B. Brahmananda Reddy, Advisor to Govt. of A.P. (Marketing & Cooperation) who participated as Guest of Honor said that in case of contingency situations short duration varieties are needed in all the major crops for cultivation. Dr. L. Prasanthi, Director Research explained in detail about the completed technical Programmes w.r.t. research along with major findings and results for the year 2022-23. Similarly, Dr. A. Subbarami Reddy, Director of Extension delivered a Power Point Presentation about



the Extension activities concluded for the year 2022-2023. He highlighted major outcomes of OFTS and FLDs. Various new books were released by the dignitaries. RARS, Tirupati and RARS, Lam combinedly received best 'RARS Award' and ARS, Nellore and ARS, Vizianagaram combinedly received 'Best ARS Award'. Also, KVK, Rastakuntabai and KVK, Darsi received 'Best KVK Award' and DAATTC Vizianagaram and DAATTC, Chittoor combinedly received 'Best DAATTC Award'. Members, Board of Management; University Officers; ICAR and PJTSAU scientists who were invited as experts, ANGRAU scientists, REAC members and farmers participated.

ANGRAU inked MoU with Two State Departments of A.P.



College of Community Science, ANGRAU had an agreement with Samagra Shiksha along with its two state departments *i.e.* Department of School Education and Department of Women Development and Child Welfare, Govt. of A.P. on 3rd January 2024. The MoU is for capacity building of teachers from Foundational Schools for implementation of National Education Policy (NEP, 2020) in the state of Andhra Pradesh through world bank funded project "Supporting Andhra's Learning Transformation" (SALT). As part of the project, ANGRAU will offer two certification courses namely "Gnana Jyothi" and "Gnana Prakash" with a duration of 120 days and 60 days for Anganwadi teachers and Grade

I & II teachers, respectively for implementation of NEP (2020) effectively at foundational stage covering early childhood period of 3 to 8 years. The programme will focus on improving the knowledge and skill of teachers in Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) as well as to strengthen their Foundational Literacy & Numeracy (FLN) of (NEP)-2020. The other participating organisations in the SALT project implementation included Department of WD&CW, SCERT and PRATHAM foundation organization.

The MoU was signed and exchanged in the presence of Sri. Botsa Satyanarayana, Hon'ble Minister of Education, Govt. of A.P.; Dr. R. Sarada Jayalakshmi Devi, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of ANGRAU; Mr. Suresh Kumar, IAS, Commissioner of School Education & State Project Director; Sri. B. Srinivas Rao, IAS, State Project Director; Mrs. M. Janaki, IAS, Commissioner of Women Development and Child Welfare; Dr. L. Prasanthi, Dean of Community Science (i/c); Dr. G. Rama Rao, Registrar of ANGRAU and Dr. M.S. Chaitanya Kumari, Associate Dean, College of Community Science, Guntur.

Capacity Building Training for Extension Teaching Staff

Capacity Building Training in regards to recent advances in crop production, crop protection and veterinary sciences was organized for the field extension staff between 7th February and 9th February, 2024 at Krishna Auditorium, RARS, Lam. Directorate of Extension was instrumental for the training programme and invited a total of 160 scientists/officers of 13 KVKs, 13 DAATTCs and extension officers in district resource centres (DRCs) as participants. A total of 14 Principal Scientists/ Professors served as resource persons for the three-day programme. Dr. A. Subbarami Reddy, Director of Extension stated that new technologies disseminated at the field level should result in increased productivity in oilseeds, pulses and millets in both short term and long term. Dr. L. Prasanthi, Director of



Research spoke on the occasion and suggested the field staff to bring the research gaps observed by them to the notice of the University for inclusion in technical programme of 2024-25. University Officers of ANGRAU participated.

Inauguration of ATIC and Alumni House at Ag. College, Bapatla

Bapatla Agricultural College unveiled two significant additions to its infrastructure: the Agricultural Technology & Information Centre (ATIC) and the Alumni House on February 12th, 2024. Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, along with esteemed dignitaries and alumni, graced the ceremony. Funded through the generous contributions of alumni, and maintained by the Alumni Agricultural Graduates Trust (AAGT), the Alumni House stands as a commitment towards the alma mater. ATIC building was funded by V. Hariprasad, alumnus of the Ag. College, Bapatla.

Dr. R. Sarada Jayalakshmi Devi, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor inaugurated the new structures. Later in the

meeting held at Sri B.V. Nath Auditorium she lauded the collaborative efforts of the alumni, faculty, and administration in realizing these projects within 10 months. Dr. V. Srinivasa Rao, Associate Dean stated that 2000 sq.m land is allotted for these state-of-the-art buildings. Dr. V. Seetha Rambabu, Treasurer of the AAGT made a presentation about the financial status of the trust. Dr. U. Venkateswarlu, Former Union Minister, GoI & esteemed alumni; University Officers, Alumni committee members, faculty and students participated. Dr. V. Sridhar, Alumni Committee Convener presented vote of thanks.

ANGRAU Faculty Participated in FSII Conference

Federation of Seed Industry of India (FSII) hosted a one-day conference on "DSR for Sustainable and Profitable Rice Production" on March 15, 2024 at The Park, Connaught Place, New Delhi. Dr. R. Sarada Jayalakshmi Devi, Honorable Vice-Chancellor, Dr. L. Prasanthi, Director of Research, Dr. T. Srinivas Principal Scientist (Rice) and Dr. G. Raghunadha Reddy, Principal Scientist (Agricultural Economics) participated in the conference. The conference addressed the challenges in adoption of DSR, training for capacity building of farmers, developing an ecosystem to encourage DSR adoption and synergies between input industry, State government and Central government policies. Resource persons from ICAR-IARI, New Delhi, ICAR-Indian Institute of Rice Research, Hyderabad and

Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) served as resource persons for the technical sessions.



Kisan Mela Held at ARS, Anantapuramu

Agricultural Research Station, Rekulakunta, Anantapur organized a Kisan Mela on “Ownership of Adverse Climate-Adverse Crops” on 23rd January, 2024. Dr. R. Sarada Jaya Lakshmi Devi, Hon’ble Vice – Chancellor; Dr. L. Prasanthi, Director of Research; Dr. A. Subba Rami Reddy, Director of Extension; Dr. M. Mallikarjuna Reddy and B. Muralidhar Reddy, Members, Board of Management; Dr. N.C. Venkateshwarlu, Associate Director of Research; Dr. Y. Padmalatha, Comptroller; Dr. C. Lavanya, Dr. Satish and Dr. Manjunath working at Indian Oilseeds Research Institute, Hyderabad; U. Uma Maheswaramma, District Agriculture Officer, Anantapur; Dr. B. Sahadeva Reddy, PS& Head, Agricultural Research Station, Anantapur; PCs of Krishi Vigyan Kendras, Coordinators of DAATTCs, Heads of Agricultural Research Centres, Line Dept. Officials and farmers graced the event.



A total of 1278 farmers and 136 RBK staff participated. Fifty stalls on different inputs/Machinery etc were arranged for the benefit of farmers. Dr. R. Sarada Jaya Lakshmi Devi, Hon’ble V-C explained the importance of best management practices such

as deep summer furrows, proper crop planning, intercropping and harvesting, etc to reduce losses in adverse weather conditions. Dr. L. Prashanthi stated that Weather forecasts provided by the India Meteorological Department will reduce the damage from adverse weather conditions and hence farmers should follow the forecasts. Dr. A. Subba Rami Reddy said that women farmers should come forward and use modern and advanced farming technologies for a better yield. Prizes were awarded to the winners of the quiz competitions held for farmers. Published brochures on cultivation of various crops were released.

Training Programme for SMSs of KVKs Organized

College of Community Science, Lam, Guntur has organized three-day training program for the Subject Matter Specialists (SMSs) of Home Science of Andhra Pradesh Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVK’s) on “Effective Transfer of Technologies” from 26th March, 2024 to 28th March, 2024. On Day 1, Dr.M.S.Chaitanya Kumari, Associate Dean of Community Science invited the guests and given opening remarks. Hon’ble Vice-Chancellor Dr.R.Sarada Jayalakshmi Devi participated as Chief Guest for the programme. The programme was initiated with lamp lighting by the V-C. In her address, V-C stated that inventing the technologies is important but to receive the patents for the technologies should also be top priority.

Dr. B. Vijayabhinadana, Director of Extension spoke about establishing value addition units at KVKs which will benefit the villages in the rural areas and women empowerment. Dr.G. Ramarao, Dean of Community Science suggested to focus on writing project proposals and getting funds from different funding agencies. In the technical sessions, Dr. P.V.K Sasidhar, Director, IGNOU, New Delhi; Shri. Sarath Babu, District Development Manager, NABARD; Dr.J.Lakshmi, Former Associate Dean, College of Community Science; Dr. A. Sarada Devi, Former Dean and Emeritus Professor (Retd.), Dept. of Apparel and Textiles, ANGRAU delivered lectures and participants were given certificates. Technical sessions were held for three days.



TSU Team Visits ANGRAU Campuses

In a significant academic collaboration, two professors from the College of Agriculture, Tennessee State University, Nashville, visited Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University between 22nd and 25th February, 2024. The visit aimed to foster student academic exchange and research partnerships between the two institutions starting from November, 2024. The two-member team visited colleges at Bapatla and Tirupati and RARS Campuses of Lam and Tirupati.

Dr. John Ricketts, Professor (Agriculture Extension) and Dr. Dilip Nandwani, Professor (Horticulture) engaged in productive discussions with the faculty members and students at the three campuses. Their visits included insightful meetings, and field visits, providing valuable insights into on-going research activities at RARSs and innovative



practices in colleges. Dr. John Ricketts appreciated students' scholarships funds from the Govt. and Dr. Dilip Nandwani appreciated research involving drones for diseases and pests management. Dr. R. Sarada Jayalakshmi Devi, Hon'ble V-C mentioned that the visit is a step forward towards international collaboration between ANGRAU and U.S. Agricultural Colleges. The U.S. team left the S.V. Agricultural College, Tirupati campus on 25th February, 2024 after successfully completing four-day visit at ANGRAU.

ICAR-ATARI Zone X Director Visited KVK, Ghantasala

Dr. S.N. Meera, the Director of ICAR-ATARI Zone X, made a maiden visit to Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Ghantasala on February 19th, 2024. The purpose of the visit was to conduct a comprehensive review of the implementation of KVK's mandate and to provide valuable insights for enhancing both farm operations and administrative functions. Accompanied by Dr. B. Mukunda Rao, Principal Scientist (Extension), O/o Director of Extension, Dr. P. Srilatha, the Programme Coordinator, KVK Ghantasala, Dr. Meera delved into various aspects of agricultural technology applications and research at the KVK.

During the visit, Dr. Meera examined the on-going OFT and FLD demos and other demo units undertaken by the KVK Ghantasala staff. This included field visits to observe first-hand application of technologies and varieties. In the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) meeting, Dr.



P. Srilatha delivered a Power Point presentation of the technical programme implemented for the year 2023 -2024. Through discussions with the teaching staff, Dr. Meera assessed the effectiveness of the existing strategies and identified areas for improvement. The director stated that the requests for budget allotment will be considered and sanctioned in this present budget. Dr. Meera appreciated the team and the PC for their efforts in fulfilling the mandate of the KVK.

75th Republic Day Celebrated



The University celebrated 75th Republic Day with fervour and pride. The event was held in the lawns of the Administrative Office at Guntur. Initially, Dr. R. Sarada Jayalakshmi Devi, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor garlanded Mahatma Gandhiji photo followed by the faculty members and non-teaching staff who also paid floral tributes to the Father of the Nation. Later, V-C hoisted the tricolour with fervor and pride. Following the ceremonial flag hoisting, V-C 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 seed varieties at national and state level developed by the university's dedicated team of scientists.

Women's Achievements Celebrated at ANGRAU

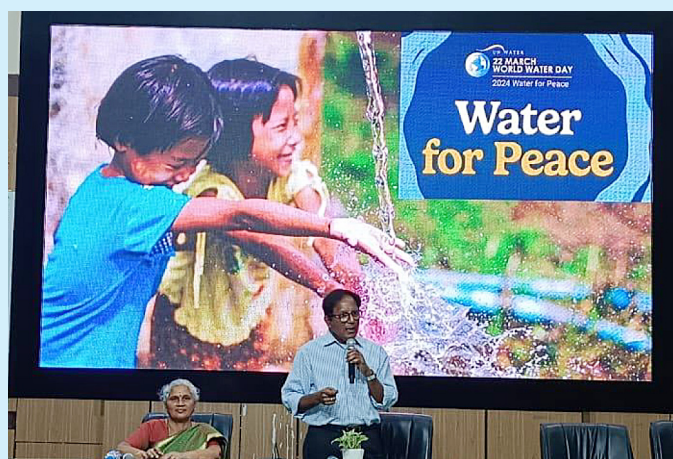
On March 8th, 2024, Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University (ANGRAU) came alive with vibrant celebrations in honour of International Women's Day. The event was graced by the esteemed presence of Dr. Poonam Malakondaiah, IAS, Special Chief Secretary to CM, Govt. of A.P. as the Chief Guest. Dr. A. Mani, Dean of Agricultural Engineering & Technology extended a warm welcome to the Chief Guest. The Chief Guest spoke on the occasion and stated that 34% of the Indian women are not able to balance work-life and give up their jobs. The Chief Guest added that financial independence is important for Indian women. Hon'ble V-C spoke about women achievers



of India. One of the highlights of the event was the recognition of the individuals who participated in various games, with winners receiving the prizes.

World Water Day Organized

RARS, Lam organized World Water Day on 22nd March, 2024 under the theme, "Leveraging Water for Peace". Dr. K. Yella Reddy, Former Dean of Agricultural Engineering & Technology (Retd.), ANGRAU graced the occasion as Chief Guest and addressed the august gathering. He created awareness on water use, which is the most important natural resource for the benefit of young generation, in particular. He distributed prizes to the winners of essay and elocution competitions held for teaching and non-teaching staff of RARS, Lam and quiz completion held for RAWEP students. Similarly, Dr. M.S. Baig, Associate Dean, College of Food Science & Technology, Pulivendula and College of Community Science, Guntur also celebrated the important day and



gave tips to students and staff of thrift usage of the water in daily life.

World Consumer Rights Day Celebrated

On the occasion of World Consumer Rights Day on 15th March, 2024, an awareness programme was conducted in the College of Community Science, Guntur in collaboration with Department of Consumer Affairs, Food and Civil Supplies, Guntur. The theme of the World Consumer Rights day was "Fair and Responsible Artificial Intelligence (AI) for Consumers". The inauguration and welcome address was given by Dr. M.S. Chaitanya Kumari, Associate Dean and discussed about the need and importance of AI for Consumers in the current scenario. The Keynote address on Consumer awareness on misleading advertisements was given by Smt. Komali Padma, District Civil Supply Officer, Department of Consumer Affairs, Food & Civil Supplies, Govt. of India. Dr. Ch. Haribabu, National Vice-President CCI & In-Charge District Consumer

Information Centre, Guntur discussed about wise purchasing tips, consumer protection act, consumer rights and responsibilities. The programme was concluded with vote of thanks by Dr. V. Prasuna, Assistant Professor, Department of Resource Management and Consumer Science.



Workshop on “Emotional Management through Behaviour Technology”

Two-day workshop on “Emotional Management through Behaviour Technology” was organized on 18th and 19th, March, 2024 at Krishna Auditorium by College of Community Science, Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University, Lam, Guntur in collaboration with M/S Mindcraft, Kerala. Technical sessions was carried out by Dr. Jayan Namboodiri, CEO-Director and Behaviour Therapist, Mindcraft, Kerala and Prof. Matt Perelstein, CEO/Co-founder, EQ4Peace Worldwide Inc., USA. Dr. M.S. Chaitanya Kumari, Associate Dean oriented students regarding the need and significance of mental health and management of emotions on a daily basis. On Day 1, technical sessions were on various topics on

‘mental health awareness, anger management, phobias and intervention techniques. On Day 2, positive mental health through emotional intelligence, anxiety/stress management techniques, types of addiction and de-addiction techniques, suicidal prevention were taught. Practical sessions were held involving students of the B.Sc.Community Science. These sessions were mainly on different emotional management and mindfulness techniques to improve the mental health. The participants expressed that the workshop was useful for them to understand the different emotional management techniques which help them to improve their overall mental health.



New Postings

Dr. K. Gurava Reddy, Registrar

Dr. G. Rama Rao, Dean of Community Science

Dr. A.V. Ramana, Dean of P.G. Studies

Dr. B. Vijayabhinandana, Director of Extension

Dr. Y. Padmalatha, Comptroller

Dr. P. Muniratnam, Controller of Examinations

Dr. N.C. Venkateswarlu, Director of Polytechnics

Dr. Saralamma, Associate Director of Research, RARS, Nandyal

Dr. B. Sreelakshmi, Associate Director of Research, RARS, Lam, Guntur

Dr. O. Sarada, Principal Agricultural Information Officer

Award

PHET, RARS, Anakapalli, has secured third position as the Best AICRP center for 2023-24, recognizing its remarkable contributions to the advancement of technologies in PHE&T in the 39th Annual workshop of AICRP on PHET held between 13th and 15th March, 2024 at ICAR-CIPHET, Ludhiana.

NAHEP- Institutional Development Plan Concluded

The ICAR-NAHEP has sanctioned an overall budget of Rs. 2610.01 Lakhs to ANGRAU towards implementation of Institutional Development Plan (IDP) during FY 2018-19 with a capital amount of Rs. 717.56 Lakhs and a revenue component of Rs. 1892.45 Lakhs. Overall, an amount of Rs. 2601.63 Lakhs (99.7%) was utilized out of the sanctioned amount of Rs. 2610.01 Lakhs with the closure of the project *i.e.*, as on 31st December 2023, leaving an unspent grant of Rs. 8.38 Lakhs that is refunded back to ICAR, NAHEP during Jan, 2024.

The IDP activities are more oriented towards capacity building, infrastructure development and governance reforms leading to greater autonomy and sustained accreditation of the University. The IDP team at ANGRAU facilitated student international programs at USA, Finland, Malaysia, Thailand, Bangladesh and Taiwan resulting in 140 beneficiaries between April, 2018 and December, 2023. It assisted 24 faculty members to participate in international trainings for a period between two weeks and two months at reputed foreign academic/research institutions at USA, Australia and Thailand.

In collaboration with reputable National training institutions, the ANGRAU-IDP worked to improve the skills of the students through personality development programs on college campuses, English and Foreign language classes, entrepreneurship programs, and skill

development programs on cutting-edge technologies such as drones, blockchain, IoT, robotics, and Artificial Intelligence (AI). The university conducted 81 programmes including entrepreneurship programmes, soft skills and skill development programmes at National level in collaboration with reputed institutions such as NIPHM, NI-MSME, WALAMTARI, IIITDM, MANAGE, LIME, EDII, Smart Series, SattvaQ IT Solutions, CommuniCare, etc, resulting in 9724 beneficiaries between April, 2018 and December, 2023. A total of 2 national trainings on Natural Farming were organized benefitting 79 faculty from ANGRAU and SAUs. IDP has organized 85 programmes comprising of workshops, webinars, seminars and lecture series for the benefit of faculty/scientists and students not only from ANGRAU but also from other institutes in India, which were meticulously planned and executed by beckoning eminent scientists and professors from reputable national and international institutions benefitting 30,334 participants between April, 2018 and December, 2023.

The IDP played a key role in the creation of 2 central instrumentation facilities, 7 smart and virtual classrooms, 7 organic waste composters, 5 language labs, CCTV and affirmed libraries for better teaching, learning, and research experiences for faculty and undergraduate students leading to overall excellence in academics and research at the university.



Retirement

Dr. B. Vijayabhinandana, working as Director of Extension at Administrative Office, Guntur retired from his service on 31.03.2024. He had served the University for about 37.8

years in various capacities and worked at places *viz.*, RARS of Jagityal; Agricultural Colleges of Bapatla, Rajendranagar and Tirupati; EEI of Hyderabad, and Administrative Offices of Hyderabad and Guntur.

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