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Independence Day Celebration

THE 78TH INDEPENDENCE DAY, a celebration of national pride, was elegantly commemorated at GKVK, Bengaluru on 15th August, 2024, under the inspiring theme of '*Vikshit Bharat*', which envisions India's transformation into a developed nation by the year 2047. Dr. S.V. Suresha, the esteemed Vice-Chancellor, proudly hoisted the tri-colour National Flag, joined by Dr. Mohan I. Naik, the Dean of Student Welfare. In his address, the Vice-Chancellor highlighted India's stature as the world's largest democracy and its remarkable ascent as the fifth-largest economy globally, as the Nation celebrated 78 glorious years of independence. He commended the significant strides made by the country in agriculture, health, education, sports, infrastructure and science & technology, notably the successful launch of the Chandrayana-3 Mission. He also reflected on the University's growth and achievements over the past year, expressing gratitude to all *karmikas*, students and faculty members for their unwavering support in attaining prestigious milestones. He conveyed that India, once beset by hunger in the 1950s, has now achieved self-sufficiency in food and ensuring nutritional security. He further noted that in alignment with on-going advancements, UAS-B is poised to emphasize digital agriculture, harnessing artificial intelligence to streamline agricultural operations. Following this, the cultural programmes showcased by Undergraduate and Postgraduate students featured a captivating live music performance, vibrant dance and an impressive demonstration of artistic talent. For the first time, a cultural procession was conducted by the dedicated labourers and staff of the Zonal Agricultural Research Station, GKVK. Hon'ble Members of the Board of Management, along with officers, faculty, students and farm labourers, were in attendance. He concluded with a poignant remark: "The future belongs to Nations with grains and not guns. If agriculture falters, nothing else will thrive". On this occasion, Colonel Shri R.N. Shinde, was honoured for his invaluable contributions in the Navy sector. The celebration of Independence Day resonated throughout all the constituent colleges, units, research stations and KVKs under the University's purview.



Vice-Chancellor's address

Honouring Colonel RN Shinde

Walkathon to Foster Awareness

ZONAL AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH STATION (ZARS), GKVK in collaboration with Agricultural Technology Information Centre, GKVK, Bengaluru in a splendid initiative to enlighten urban dwellers about the significance of farming and biodiversity, orchestrated an exquisite 6-kilometer walkathon on Sunday, the 25th August, 2024. The event, entitled 'Our Walk to Agriculture at GKVK', showcased state-of-the-art automated winnowing machines that significantly minimize labour, advanced nursery techniques that ensure superior seedling survival rates and integrated aquaculture systems. Urbanites had a hands-on exposure to ploughing, sowing, harvesting, threshing, winnowing and other agricultural operations. In his distinguished inaugural address, Dr. S.V. Suresha, Vice-Chancellor eloquently highlighted the significance of the environment, physical fitness and agriculture, emphasizing their interconnectedness. The event was graced by the presence of Dr. M. Chandregowda, Hon'ble Member of the Board of Management of UAS-B, alongside Dr. H.S. Shivaramu, the Director of Research, who served as Chief Guests. Vice-Chancellor had the honour of inaugurating the 'Farm Sale Point' at the farm circle of the ZARS, GKVK, which enhance the accessibility of farm produce from ZARS and various associated schemes.



Participants along with the Vice-Chancellor during Walkathon

DR. ARSHIYA NOORANI, Agricultural Officer (Plant Genetic Resources) from the Plant Production and Protection Division of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Rome, Italy, visited UAS, GKVK, Bengaluru and interacted with the Vice-Chancellor regarding potential research collaboration between UAS-B and FAO. She visited different facilities at GKVK including Gene Bank, seed processing unit of NSP, field testing trials of pigeonpea, apiary, IBT & VA and others.

Vismaya Keeta Prapancha : An Insect Exhibition

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, Hassan proudly hosted a four-day district-level insect exhibition, entitled 'Vismaya Keeta Prapancha' in collaboration with the Red Cross Society, Veterinary College, HDFC Bank Limited and the Institute of Agricultural Technologists, from 19-22 August, 2024, at the elegant Red Cross Bhavana,



Dignitaries inaugurating the exhibition

Hassan. The esteemed Vice-Chancellor of UAS-B, Dr. S.V. Suresha, graciously inaugurated the insect exhibition, elucidating the vital role insects play in pollination, their significance in medicinal preparations, and their contribution to biodiversity conservation. He further pledged the establishment of a Butterfly Park at the College of Agriculture, Karekere, Hassan, aimed at educating the public and fostering a sustainable eco-tourism destination. Shri H.P. Mohan, President of the Red Cross Society, expressed his commitment to support the creation of the Butterfly Park at CoA, Hassan and to facilitate a more expansive insect exhibition in collaboration with district administration in the future. The function was presided over by Dr. K.N. Muniswamy Gowda, Dean, College of Agriculture, Hassan. The four-day insect exhibition proved to be an overwhelming success, attracting over 7,000 visitors from diverse age groups.

Memorandum of Understanding

A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING was formally executed between University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore and the incubatee, Mrs. P. Subhashini, Proprietor of M/s. Sundara Ramana Foods, Bengaluru. This agreement, dated 3rd August, 2024, aims to foster the growth of the start-up, focusing on the development of innovative technologies for commercialization and market testing of processed foods. Under the esteemed



Exchange of Memorandum of Understanding

guidance of the Institute of Baking Technology and Value Addition (IBT&VA), Directorate of Extension, UAS, Bangalore, the incubatee presented a comprehensive project plan to leverage the incubation resources available at IBT&VA. Dr. S.V. Suresha, the Vice-Chancellor of UAS-B, emphasized the significance of creating healthy products and the critical role of effective branding and labelling techniques. Dr. K.C. Narayanaswamy, Director of Education, Dean (PGS) and Registrar of UAS-B signed the Memorandum of Understanding and extended his best wishes to the incubatee, alongside the presence of other key officials at this momentous event.



Shri N. Chaluvaryaswamy, Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture, GoK during the demonstration of Ragi Sowing using Multi-crop Planter at Chowdenahalli, Nagamangala Taluk, Mandya on 2nd August, 2024 organised by ICAR-AICRP (FIM), ZARS, V.C. Farm, Mandya in collaboration with KSDA



Vice-Chancellor and Officers planting a *Tabebuia rosea* sapling under 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' a global campaign launched on the occasion of World Environment Day on 21st August, 2024 at GKVK Campus with a plan to plant 20,000 saplings during the current year at GKVK campus

Parthenium Awareness Week

AICRP ON WEED MANAGEMENT, GKVK, Bengaluru organised the 19th Parthenium Awareness Week from 16-22 August, 2024. The inaugural ceremony took place at the venerated *Krishimela* ground, where Dr. S.V. Suresha, the Vice-Chancellor,



Vice-Chancellor & Officers releasing Mexican beetles

graciously presided over the proceedings. He emphasized the importance of educating farmers, students, and the general public about the detrimental effects of Parthenium and the imperative of its management, advocating for a Parthenium-free environment. Dr. H.S. Shivaramu, the Director of Research, highlighted the necessity of an integrated approach to weed management. Dr. V.L. Madhuprasad, Director of Extension, and Dr. Mohan I. Naik, Dean of Student Welfare participated in the event. Together, the Vice-Chancellor and Officers released Mexican beetle, *Zygogramma bicolorata* and disseminated *Cassia tora* seeds as part of the initiative to combat Parthenium. An informative exhibition was organised at various locations. Dr. K.N. Geetha, Professor & Scheme Head along with the scientists of the scheme coordinated the event.

Training to TSP Beneficiaries

AICRP ON AGRO-FORESTRY, GKVK conducted an exquisite training and awareness initiative focused on the significance of Bund and Boundary plantation within Agroforestry systems. This event, held on 26th August, 2024, in the picturesque Dattahalli village of HD Kote taluk, Mysuru district, was tailored for tribal beneficiaries under the esteemed Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) Programme. During this enlightening session, Forestry and Horticulture seedlings, along with agricultural implements and poultry birds, were distributed to 100 tribal beneficiaries.

AICRP ON SEED (CROPS), GKVK hosted a training and distribution event of seeds and agricultural implements on 22nd August, 2024 for tribal farmers at Basavanagiri Hadi in the H.D. Kote taluk of Mysuru district under TSP programme. Dr. K. Madhusudan, Special Officer (Seeds) encouraged the tribal beneficiaries to leverage the resources provided to elevate their living standards through increased agricultural production and productivity. Each beneficiary received 10 kg of ragi, 2 kg of Bengal gram, 5 kg of red gram and 5 kg of field bean seeds along with essential tools. Dr. K. Vishwanath, Dr. B. Basavaraja and Dr. N. Gangaraju participated as resource persons in the technical session.

SKILL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING PROGRAMME focused on the value addition of millet and spices was organised by the Department of Food Science and Nutrition, CoA, GKVK from 18-21 August, 2024 under the TSP project titled 'Tribal Urban Interface on Nutrition Security and Entrepreneurship Development for the Soliga Tribes of Chamarajanagara District'. The valedictory ceremony was featured by Dr. S. V. Suresha, the Vice-Chancellor; as the distinguished Chief Guest. who underscored the critical importance of processing safe and hygienic products, alongside the establishment of food processing units in tribal regions. Essential resources were distributed to the beneficiaries, ensuring their empowerment. The program was orchestrated by Dr. Usha Ravindra, Professor & Head with the full support of the faculty.

PG Science Week - 2024

THE DIRECTORATE OF POST GRADUATE STUDIES hosted the eleventh iteration of the 'PG Science Week: Student Symposium' from 6-9 August, 2024. The event commenced on 6th August with an inaugural address by Dr. K.N. Ganeshiah, the former Dean of Postgraduate Studies, UAS-B and a Senior Scientist at INSA. Dr. K.C. Narayanaswamy, the Director of Education, Registrar and Dean (PGS), provided an overview of



DDG awarding best presentation awards

the origin of Science Week. During the four-day symposium, 313 posters were presented by Master's students and 110 oral presentations were delivered by Doctoral students. The start-ups competition further enriched the event, unveiling 27 innovative concepts. Dr. R.C. Agrawal, Hon'ble Deputy Director General (Agril. Education), ICAR, New Delhi, had the honour of serving as the Chief Guest at the valedictory ceremony. The occasion was graced by the Vice-Chancellor alongside distinguished Members of the Board of Management, including Dr. T.K. Prabhakar Setty and Dr. M. Chandre Gowda, as well as Dr. K.C. Narayanaswamy, Director of Education.

International Biofuel Day

THE INTERNATIONAL BIOFUEL DAY was commemorated at Biofuel Park, Madenur, Hassan on 10th August, 2024. This event was organized in partnership with the Agriculture College, and the KSBDB, Bengaluru, under the theme "Sustainable Biofuels: Fuelling a Greener Future". The program was inaugurated by Smt. Malini Suvarna, Hassan District Development Manager, NABARD who planted Simarouba seedlings along with Dr. B.S. Basavaraju, In-charge Dean, CoA, Hassan; Students and Farmers.

ASEAN-India Fellowship to UAS-B

UAS, BANGALORE one among the 76 Farm Universities in the Country has been chosen for the prestigious 'ASEAN-India Fellowship' programme for higher education in Agriculture and



Launch of ASEAN-India Fellowship Programme

Allied Sciences, that was launched on 14th August, 2024 at ICAR, New Delhi. Dr. K.C. Narayanaswamy, Director of Education, Registrar and Dean (PGS) received the citation for the fellowship.

Global Bio India Road Show

THE GLOBAL BIO INDIA ROAD SHOW, organised by the BioNEST Agri Innovation Centre, UAS-B, was officially launched by Dr. S.V. Suresha, Vice-Chancellor of UAS-B. During his speech, the Vice-Chancellor highlighted the vital importance of funding in the agricultural sector, encouraging start-ups to prioritize not only their business growth but also the societal benefits of their innovations, which would ultimately yield a return on investment. Dr. Arshi Mehaboob, Senior Manager (Programmes) at BIRAC, provided an overview of BIRAC's initiatives and the various funding options available for start-ups and students, emphasizing the significance of Global Bio India 2024 and its overarching theme.



Training programme on 'Agro Ecological Practices (Module-02)' organised by Farmers Training Institute for Community Resource Persons (*Krishi Sakhis*) held from 19-24 August, 2024 at FTI, GKVK

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RAWEP-2024

THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION, CoA, GKVK is facilitating the Rural Agricultural Work Experience Programme (RAWEP) as part of the Student READY Programme for final-year Undergraduate students in Agriculture and Agribusiness Management. These students are assigned to 15 villages across Tumakuru, Bengaluru Rural, Chikkaballapura, and Ramanagara districts for 90 days, allowing them to gain hands-on experience and enhance their communication skills. Students have employed PRA Techniques to validate the data collected. Layout operations for establishing a Farmers Participatory Technology Demonstration Park have been initiated in the villages.

Training on Fodder Production

ALL INDIA COORDINATED RESEARCH PROJECT on Forage Crops and Utilization organised an exquisite training program focusing on 'Fodder crop varieties and production technologies' on the 12th August, 2024, in partnership with Shri Kshetra Dharmasthala Rural Development Programme and B.C. Trust, Mandya. This event saw the distribution of premium fodder crop seeds and essential agricultural tools such as *Bandli*, *Guddali* and *Sickle*, all provided to participants under the Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (SCSP). Dr. B.G. Shekara, Dr. V.B. Sanath Kumar, Dr. A.D. Ranganath, Dr. P. Mahadevu, Dr. Nagesh Chikkarugi and Dr. N. Rani contributed their expertise through insightful lectures on fodder production technologies.

Other Accomplishments

- College of Agriculture, Hassan and Mandya celebrated Anti-Ragging week from 12-18 August, 2024. CoA, Hassan organised *Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyaan*, *Sadbhavana Diwas* and National Space Day on 12th, 20th & 23rd August, 2024, respectively.
- Department of Agronomy, CoA, Mandya organised a training programme on 'Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning in Agriculture' on 14th August, 2024 in collaboration with Directorate of PGS and Skill Development Centre, UAS-B.
- The 42nd Annual General Body meeting of the UAS Employees Credit Co-operative Society was held on 23rd August, 2024, at GKVK Campus. Dr. S.V. Suresha, Vice-Chancellor, served as the Chief Guest and honoured *Prathibha Puraskara* for outstanding students of employees children.

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