



From Vice-Chancellor's Desk ...

Mismatching of support and Expectations from Agri-Varsities in India

It is often questioned as to why the performance of Indian Agricultural (Veterinary, Fisheries and Forestry included) universities are far below compared to China and other countries and why none of Indian varsities figures among the top 200 universities in the world. While asking such questions, a finger is also pointed towards the capacities and capabilities of Indian scientists and teachers as they say that compared to the research publications from countries like China, ours stand nowhere. These are concerned questions for which it has become necessary to analyse the reasons behind our comparatively lower standard of education. This lower standard has also recently been referred to by Bill Gates when he said the quality of education in India bothers him a lot.

It is generally seen that the public funded universities in India are lagging behind their expectation. Most of them depend heavily on government funding. Fee structure in public Indian varsities is also not high to compensate the crunch. It is a matter of record that investment in Research and Development (R & D) in India is only 0.8 percent of its GDP while it is 2.0 percent in China (with much higher GDP than ours), 2.70 percent in USA (with yet higher GDP), 1.7 percent in UK, 2.90 percent in Germany, 2.10 percent in Australia and a whopping 4.30 percent in South Korea for example. With such lower investment, we have to support a robust Higher Education network in the country next only to USA and China. In this era of globalisation of education and related resource generation benefit from foreign students too, it is desired that we assess this scenario as well. Against 9.40 lakh International students in USA, 4.94 lakh in UK, 1.08 lakh in China etc., India has only 34,419 students. Since 2011 to 2015, only 195 overseas students took admission in agriculture in 35 Indian Agricultural Universities. The resource sharing among the institutions is also a matter of concern in India since its number is increasing every year. The number of colleges in General Universities in India has increased; in case of Central Universities, by 88 percent from 25 in 2008 to 47 in 2016 and in case of state universities by 51 percent from 229 to 345 during the same period. The growth in private universities has been phenomenal at 1579 percent from 14 in 2008 to 235 in 2016. The growth in agri-sector has been - central universities from 1 to 4 and state universities up to 68

number. Whatever is the resource, that has to be shared among all these institutions. This large number and an allocation of only 0.8 percent of its GDP to R & D programs in India will amply throw light on answering the often asked questions mentioned above. However, this cannot be the sole reason for us doing poorly in international education arena. Other factors, as would be dealt with below, also count.

Agriculture being a state subject, the onus to support the state agricultural universities falls under the state government. On the issues of low productivity, import of food grains and animal/ fish products etc. from outside the state, I have been asked many a times by the visiting and visited dignitaries as to what the university is doing, knowing or pretending to be unknown about the support mechanism and support per se the university is receiving to conduct, test and demonstrate its research findings. Even the premier most agricultural universities are finding it difficult to live up to the expectations of its clients due to nothing but resource crunch. Agencies like ICAR have been of great help to keep on breathing but definitely not for running. Of late, they also appear to be little helpless due to slicing down of even the allocated budget. The budget to Agricultural Extension Division, for example, for the current year is learnt to be only 232.51 crore. Rs. 232 crore for about 670 KVKs which are an institution in itself. Similarly, an amount of Rs. 694.66 crore was allocated to Education Division of ICAR which might also be slashed. Rs. 694 crore for 75 varsities including the Central universities, Deemed to be Universities and the General Universities with Agriculture Faculty. If equally distributed, this means an amount of only Rs. 9.25 crore per university for the year. Major portion of this amount again is for student related activities including their stipend etc. which is very vital and a crucial need of any university. At least that support the universities, by and large, are receiving from ICAR. Much higher allocation therefore, is necessary to match up the expectations from the client groups. If this support is ensured and if the university authorities are made free

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from worries like paying the salary of their staff, much more could be done in education, research and extension fronts besides giving that crucial backstop to the development departments with technology, varieties and production and health packages.

Having said the above, other angles for uplifting the images of our universities are also to be analysed. Resetting of faculty mindset is a crucial issue. Productivity per faculty in terms of student's performance, externally funded research project bagged, innovation tried in teaching and research, aptitude towards using and developing digitalised teaching aids, actual peer recognition earned in the form of special invitation by any organisation and not by individuals, participation in institutional growth, aptitude for patent development and to attract sponsored students for PhD research etc. should be the benchmark to earn yearly increment and special positions in the universities. In short, faculty competence as judged by the above indicators needs to be critically evaluated together with their acceptability level in agricultural education, research and extension. Invitation from other institutions as the guest faculty will be an added advantage. Since the expectations of the client groups and the government is so very high from the universities, the universities need also be given liberty to promote the performers and show the door to non-performers either by demoting him/ her or by giving them VRS. Presently, it is gathered that from the excellent contribution of around 50 percent of the faculty and researchers, remaining 50 percent earn their salary with ease and non-accountability. This has to stop if India is to compete with the best of the best universities in the world and create a niche for herself as a sought after destination for agricultural higher education and research.

Yet another issue to be addressed is the ritualy of PhD programs. Each PhD program is to be so oriented by the respective supervisors that the output of research either serves the science by opening up further pursuable research gate or the currently perceived agricultural stresses. Each thesis needs to weigh heavily as a vital document to fall back on while searching for an agrarian solution for the state/ region. Research publications have to be of such standard that it attracts industries and commercial houses, an indicator for global ranking. Patent shyness has to be replaced with 'patent earning must' attitude and research project methods, methodologies and processes planned accordingly. Each university must also try hard to be among the first top ten accredited

universities and this attitude will definitely help in finding a better ranking than the present one. What we need is 'we can do it' attitude and 'we must do' kind of commitment and confidence. When others can, we also can with little understanding and escalated support from the government and a sense of belongingness of each and everyone who is on the roll of the university.

(K M Bujarbaruah)

Academic/Administrative

Important decisions of 246th BOM meeting (June 9, 2017) :

- * The Board gave its nod for the proposed year-long celebration of the 50th Foundation Day which falls on 1st April, 2018 and also completion of 50 years by AAU.
- * The Board approved for granting of study leave for one and a half year instead of one year for the eligible teachers to complete their course requirement for Ph.D. Programme.
- * The Board approved granting of duty leave for a maximum of three months to a teacher for undergoing a foreign training/study, if sponsored by the University.

" Best AICRP (Potato) Center Award" bagged by AAU

The AAU, Jorhat Center of AICRP on Potato was conferred the "Best AICRP (Potato) Center Award" during the 35th Annual Group Meeting of AICRP on Potato held at Bidhan Chandra Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, Kalyani, West Bengal on Sep. 15, 2017. The award has brought recognition and laurels at nation level. Dr. P.C. Bhagawati, Pr. Scientist & PI; Dr. Z. Ullah, Pr. Scientist and Dr. M. K. Saikia Sr. Scientist received the award from Dr. D. D. Patra. Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor BCKV, Kalyani, West Bengal.



“Sankalp Se Siddhi” : New India Manthan

To commemorate 75 years of the Quit India Movement the Narendra Modi government led the nation to a pledge to create a New India that is strong, prosperous and all-encompassing; an India that will make our freedom fighters proud. It has been for the first time that a strategic planning has been done to double the income of our farmers. Several schemes have been launched for this purpose at the national level. In a planned move to double the income of our farmers by 2022, the Government is focusing on its following 'seven-point-strategies' to convert these initiatives into "Sankalp Se Siddhi" -



1. Focus on Irrigation along with adequate resource building.
2. Increase production through improved seeds, planting materials, organic farming and Soil Health Card.
3. Strengthening warehousing and cold chain facilities to curb post-harvest losses.
4. Value addition through food processing.
5. Overcoming deficiencies in agriculture marketing through e-NAM.
6. Work on institutional loan to reduce risk and growth of agriculture sector.
7. Allied activities of agriculture like dairy development, poultry, beekeeping, fisheries, agro-forestry and Integrated Farming System.

The "Sankalp Se Siddhi" programme was ceremonially celebrated all over India as well as Assam from Aug. 19-



30, 2017. The Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVK) across the country has been entrusted to celebrate the same in a grand manner. The KVKs under Assam Agricultural



University have played a vital role in organizing the event across different districts of Assam. The event was witnessed by Members of Parliament, Ministers, MLAs, ICAR officials & Govt. line deptt. officials. A total of around 15792 participants took part in the programme. The programme was a grand success all over India and Assam in particular. The farmers gave strong and positive feedbacks for this mega event.

Excellent Centre Award to AINP on Soil Arthropod Project, AAU

The AINP on Soil Arthropod Pests, AAU, Jorhat Centre has been adjudged as the “Excellent Centre” in the XIX Biennial Group Meeting held at Uttarakhand University of Horticulture and Forestry, Ranichuri during June 19-20, 2017 for the outstanding research activities with novel findings on *Lepidiota mansueta*, especially on pheromonal research and social engineering for the adult management of white grubs at Majuli river island of Assam. The Jorhat Centre of the Project has received the “Excellent Centre” recognition consecutively for three times (2009-11, 2012-14, 2015-17)

SPECIAL FEATURES

49th foundation day of AAU observed

Assam Agricultural University observed its 49th Foundation Day with musical programmes, pragmatic lecture on flagship programmes in agricultural sector and a ceremony to award teachers, researchers and extension workers on April 1, 2017.



Participating as the chief guest of the Foundation Day function, Sjt. Atul Bora, Hon'ble Agriculture Minister, Govt. of Assam said that the teachers, researchers and extension workers of AAU have been contributing immensely to the growth of agriculture, veterinary science, fishery science and dairy through its extensive research and extension services to the farming community.

Delivering a pragmatic lecture on the flagship programmes in agricultural sector, Dr. K. M. Bujarbaruah, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, AAU stressed on large-scale organic cultivation in the state as the Central and the State Governments had already announced many schemes to inspire the organic farmers in the resourceful state. He said that AAU is ready to provide all kinds of advisory and technological guidance to the State Agricultural Department for better production in organic pattern of agriculture in future.

As a part of the ceremony, the Best Teachers of the year Dr. Nivedita Deka; Dr. N.N. Barman and Dr. Mamoni Das along with the Best Research Scientists Dr. Sanjay Kumar Chetia; Dr. Chandana Chowdhury Barua and Dr. Pranati Das from the Faculties of Agriculture, Veterinary Science and Home Science respectively and the best extension scientist Dr. Hiranya Kumar Bhattacharya were awarded; while Dr. Bibha Chetia Bora of the Faculty of Fishery Sciences was honoured with Best Researcher Award. Best graduate in Tea Husbandry, Gargi Barua was awarded with Late Dharmananda Das cash prize.

The other programmes of the Day included a friendly volley ball match and a colourful cultural evening.

World Veterinary Day observed

Directorate of Clinics, C.V.Sc., Khanapara observed the World Veterinary Day on April 29, 2017 at TVCC, Khanapara, Guwahati with day long brief programmes. The day started with plantation of 20 nos. of 'Bokul' tree in TVCC premises. A free endo- and ectoparasitic control programme was also

organized for animals in collaboration with SAVAVET Pvt. Ltd. Where 100 pets and 30 livestock were benefited. A technical session was also organized in which Director of TVCC stressed on judicious use of antibiotic for animal welfare.



Training programme on "Value addition in Fresh Water Fish and Marketing"

A training programme on "Value addition in fresh water fish and marketing" for the women from different districts of Assam was held during April 4-8, 2017 at College of Fisheries, AAU, Raha organized by Dept. of Fish Processing



Technology of the College and was sponsored by the Deptt. of Fisheries, Govt. of Assam. A total of 20 women participated in the training. Guests present in the inauguration programme were: Mrs. Kasturi Niva Gogoi, DFDO, Morigaon district, Dept. of Fisheries and Mr. Manoj Das, FEO, Meen Bhawan, Guwahati. One training manual entitled "Mitha panir machor mulya xongjojan aru baponan" was also published on that occasion.



The 52nd Annual Rice Group Meeting

The 52nd Annual Rice Group Meeting (ARGM) was held in AAU during Apr. 8-11, 2017 where more than 300 rice scientists/workers from all over the country participated. The meeting was also attended by the senior officers from the ICAR, New Delhi and 23 scientists from the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI). Besides, the meeting was also attended by directors of several ICAR institutes, delegates from large number of private companies working in rice and also 8 farmers from different states of the country.

Attending the Inaugural Function of the Group Meeting the Chief Guest Sri Atul Bora, Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture, Assam appreciated the initiative of ICAR



and efforts of AAU in holding the group meeting in Assam for the first time and appealed to the scientific community to develop high yielding rice varieties with tolerance to multiple stresses and also management practices to make rice farming more productive and remunerative in the face of labour shortage. Welcoming the gathering, Dr. K. M. Bujarbaruah, Hon'ble Vice

Chancellor, AAU stressed on the need of better convergence and collaboration among disciplines with use of latest technologies for developing problem solving and demand driven technologies. He drew attention of the scientists



towards the value of the rice germplasm of the Northeast India and suggested to carry out research for identifying and using novel genes/alleles in them. Dr. V. Ravindra Babu, Director, Indian Rice Research Institute (ICAR-IIRR), Hyderabad informed the house about the varieties released through State Variety Release Committee (SVRC) and Central Variety Release Committee (CVRC) and the flagship programs of IIRR to address multitude of issues facing the farming

community. He also underlined the fruitful collaboration of IIRR, NRI and IRRI for enhancing rice production and productivity. Dr. I. S. Solanki, Additional Director General [ADG (FFC)], ICAR complimented the contribution of All India Coordinated Rice Improvement Project (AICRIP) in the country's record food grain production and called upon the researchers to focus on productivity enhancing technologies including *indica* varieties with redesigned plant type.

In the inaugural function, 7 leading centres of AICRIP were awarded for their significant contribution in different divisions of research and 6 innovative farmers from different parts of the country were also felicitated. Several publications in English and Hindi were released on the occasion.

Agriculture Policy of Assam

The draft of the newly framed Agriculture Policy of Assam was presented by Dr. K.M. Bujarbaruah, Vice-



Chancellor, AAU, in a meeting held at College of Veterinary Science, Khanapara on 12th June, 2017, in presence of the Hon'ble Agriculture Minister of Assam Sri Atul Bora; Sri K.K. Mittal, Addl. Chief Secretary & Agriculture Production Commissioner, Assam; Sri Amlan Baruah, Commissioner & Secretary, Agriculture Department, Assam; Statutory officers of AAU; Director of Agriculture, Assam; Director, NRC (Pig); Additional Secretary of Agriculture, Assam: and Heads of the Departments of College of Veterinary Science, Khanapara. The Agriculture Minister highly appreciated the draft policy paper drafted by AAU.



SPECIAL FEATURES

AAU team visited China International Tea Expo

Dr. K. M. Bujarbaruah, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, AAU along with Dr. S. C. Barua, Prof. & Head, Tea Husbandry & Technology and Dr. R. P. Bhuyan, Prof, THT attended the 1st China International Tea Expo including China International Tea Summit and Tea/Coffee Dialogue organised by the Chinese Ministry of Agriculture and People's Government of Zhejiang Province, China at Hangzhou city from May 18-21, 2017.



The team from AAU representing India was invited by the Vice Minister of Agriculture, the People's Republic of China. The Summit, following the trend of globalization, aimed to boost tea and coffee trade, build up the value chain, raise brand awareness, create collaboration opportunities, enhance technology and cultural exchanges, protect consumer health and promote early attainment of the zero hunger. With the theme of 'Drinking Premium Chinese Tea, Tasting Rich Chinese Culture', the Expo featured achievement display, trade talks and exchange activities. Senior officials from major tea producing and consuming countries exchanged their views and shared experiences. The AAU team had bilateral talks with Dr. Dongyu Qu, the Vice Minister of Agriculture, the People's Republic of China. They also visited the Tea Research Institute in Hangzhou and held discussion with Dr. Jiang Yongwen, Deputy Director of the Institute.

College of Agriculture Celebrated its 69th Foundation Day

College of Agriculture, Jorhat celebrated its 70th Foundation Day on August 16, 2017 with a colourful start of the cultural procession by the students which was flagged off by Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Dr. K. M. Bujarbaruah followed by flag hoisting by Dr. D. K. Bora, Dean, College of Agriculture.

The GOC of Army's Dinjan-based 2 Mountain



Division, Major General Ananta Bhuyan delivered the Foundation Day lecture and stated that Indian defence forces in general and the Army in particular, the world's fourth largest Army, was the "perfect" career option for those who wanted to serve the country and at the same time enjoy undertaking adventures, travelling and playing sports as the job in uniform had them all. He also said that the Indian Army which has a tradition of having high professional standards, earned laurels abroad as contingents deployed under UN missions across the globe have successfully discharged their duties and accomplished their tasks.

Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, AAU, Dr. K M. Bujarbaruah, in his address, recollected the journey of the College of Agriculture and paid tributes to all those who had contributed to the development of the Institute, which is a major component of the University.

International Elder Abuse Awareness Day

The Dept. of Human Development & Family Studies (HDFS), College of Community Science observed the International Elder Abuse Awareness Day on June 15, 2017 at 'Proshanti Niloy' old age home of Country Women's Association.

A lecture was delivered by Dr. Minoti Phukan, Professor & Head, Dept.



of HDFS on different types of elderly abuse, its identification and management. The members of Country women's Association (CWA) participated in the programme and also shared their views.



Important meetings attended by the Vice-Chancellor

- Delivered a Key note address at Devraj Roy College at Golaghat on Apr. 7, 2017
- Attended the Award Committee Meeting at ICAR, New Delhi on Apr. 17, 2017
- Attended the Doubling Farmers Income meeting as its Chairman at Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh on Apr. 19, 2017
- Attended Selection Committee Meeting at Agartala (ATARI as Chairman) on Apr. 21, 2017
- Attended EEI meeting at Guwahati on Apr. 24, 2017
- Attended EC meeting of IAUA as its President at Allahabad on Apr. 26, 2017
- Attended IAUA 12th National Symposium at SHUATS, Allahabad on Apr. 27, 2017
- Attended the "Doubling Farmers Income" meeting as its Chairman for Sikkim on May 1, 2017
- Meeting with NEC Secretary and other officials at Shillong on May 6, 2017
- Attended China International Tea Expo at Hangzhou on May 18-20, 2017
- Attended the Foundation Stone laying programme of IARI at Gogamukh, Lakhimpur on May 26, 2017
- Attended Regional Committee Meeting at Imphal on May 30, 2017
- Attended inauguration of the DBT Centre at C.V.Sc., Khanapara on Jun 1, 2017
- Attended meeting at Dinjan Army Headquarter with the CM on Jun 5, 2017
- Attended workshop on Agriculture for Nutrition at Barapani on Jun 23, 2017
- Attended Foundation Day as Chief Guest at VPKAS, Almora, Uttarakhand on Jul. 1, 2017
- Chaired IAUA Executive Meeting at Mathura on Jul. 5, 2017
- Attended HRD Ministry Meeting at New Delhi on Jul. 9, 2017
- Visited Bangkok and Khon Kaen to develop collaborative programme at Khon Kaen University, Thailand and APAARI Executive Committee Meeting at Bangkok during Jul. 11-15, 2017
- Attended CPC meeting at Dibrugarh University on Jul. 19, 2017
- Attended EC meeting of Eri & Muga Silk Research Station on Jul. 21, 2017
- Attended IAUA Office for Global Conference at New Delhi on Jul. 31, 2017
- Attended DBT meeting at New Delhi on Aug. 1, 2017
- Attended CPC final meeting at Guwahati on Aug. 4, 2017
- Visited Kokilabari Farm for setting up of Agro Forestry College and delivered Pandit Ganganath Shastri memorial lecture on Aug. 6, 2017 at Koithalkuchi
- Attended meeting at Digboi College on Aug. 10, 2017
- Attended CPC meeting at Gauhati University on Aug. 17, 2017
- Attended Foundation Day programme of C.V.Sc, Khanapara on Aug. 18, 2017
- Attended IAUA meeting at West Bengal University of Animal & Fishery Sciences on Aug. 19, 2017
- Chaired "Sankalp se Siddhi" Programme at Karimganj on Aug. 21, 2017
- Attended "Sankalp se Siddhi" Programme at Silchar on Aug. 22, 2017
- Attended NITI Ayog meeting at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi on Aug. 24, 2017
- Attended Morigaon KVK for "Sankalp se Siddhi" meeting on Aug. 25, 2017
- Attended "Sankalp se Siddhi" at Nagaon and Sonitpur on Aug. 26, 2017
- Attended "Sankalp se Siddhi" at Nalbari on Aug. 27, 2017
- Attended Public meeting and award distribution ceremony of Maya magazine at Srimanta Sankardeva Kalakheta in Guwahati on Sep. 1, 2017
- Attended Foundation Day ceremony of NRC (Pig) Centre, Rani on Sep. 4, 2017
- Attended CPC meeting at Guwahati on Sep. 4, 2017
- Attended meeting with Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam at Dispur and officially handed over the financial contributions of AAU to CM's Relief Fund on Sep. 8, 2017
- Attended signing ceremony of MoU between AAU & Chitagong Veterinary and Animal Sciences University at Chitagong, Bangladesh on Sep. 13, 2017
- Attended IAUA Impact Review Meeting in New Delhi on Sep. 15, 2017
- Attended the organizing committee meeting of National Seminar on Doubling Farmers' Income at Khanapara on Sep. 18, 2017
- Chaired Selection Committee of Asstt. Prof. (Ad-Hoc) of CoF, Raha on Sep. 20, 2017
- Attended National Seminar on Smart Farming & delivered Dr. D. N. Borthakur Memorial lecture on Sep. 21, 2017



SPECIAL FEATURES

Certificate course on 'Tea Production Technology and Management' concludes

Dept. of Tea Husbandry and Technology has successfully conducted its 5th Certificate Course on 'Tea Production Technology and Management' of six month duration starting from Nov. 1, 2016 to Apr. 30, 2017.

STUDENTS OF CERTIFICATE COURSE(2016-17)
on
Tea Production Technology and Management
Department of Tea Husbandry & Technology, AAU, Jorhat.



A group of 24 students were trained on various aspects of scientific tea cultivation, production process of black tea & green tea, record keeping and legal matters including tea garden management. In the valedictory session held on Jul. 11, 2017 course completion certificates were awarded to the successful students. The session was attended by Mr. Arpan Kumar Saikia, Registrar, AAU, Dr. D.K. Bora, Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, Dr. C. Hazarika, Director of Post Graduate Studies, AAU, Dr. A.K. Das, Joint Registrar, AAU, Dr. M. Neog, Coordinator, Certificate Course, Directorate of Extension Education, AAU besides the faculty members of the Department.

Workshop on "Role of leadership and competencies in innovation"

The Department of Human Development & Family Studies, College of Community Science organized a workshop on "Role of leadership and competencies in innovation" for 4th year students of Community Science who are undergoing Experiential Learning Programme. The Workshop was held on Aug. 17, 2017 with an objective to develop leadership qualities and enhance innovative skills among students which is further expected to help in promoting entrepreneurial mindset among the students. Ms.



Chandrani Borkotoky, PhD scholar of the Dept. of HDFS of the College and Mr. Parash Goswami, District Programme Officer, SSA, Jorhat acted as resource persons for the Workshop.

Workshop on "Life skills: key to future success"

A workshop on "Life skills: key to future success" was organized by Department of Human Development & Family Studies, College of



Community Science in collaboration with NSS, Directorate of Student's Welfare and Placement Cell, AAU on Aug. 30, 2017. Final year students of colleges of Community Science, Agriculture, Horticulture & Sericulture participated in the Workshop. The participants were actively engaged in the learning process, had the opportunity to practice and enhance new skills and gain self confidence. This Workshop was facilitated by Mr. Indrajit Sinha and a co-facilitator Mr. Sonal Roshan. Indrajit Sinha has represented WAY Foundation, India in the World Professional Congress, in Washington DC, USA 2016 and is also a recipient of Legislative Fellowship from World Learning Organization, USA.



AAU signs MoU with Chittagong Veterinary & Animal Sciences University

A MoU was signed between AAU and Chittagong Veterinary and Animal Science University (CVASU), Bangladesh on Sep. 13, 2017. In this connection, the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, AAU, Dr. K.M. Bujarbaruah, accompanied by Dr. R.N. Goswami, Dean, Faculty of Veterinary Science



and Dr. P. Borah, Prof. & Head, Dept. of Animal Biotechnology, visited CVASU from Sep. 12-15, 2017. Leading officials of CAVSU led by the Vice Chancellor, Dr. Gowtam Budda Das and other dignitaries from CVASU were present during MoU signing ceremony. Through the MoU, the Universities have agreed to undertake joint research project development and execution, student and faculty exchange for advanced training and human resource development, and sharing of research facilities.

In his speech delivered on the occasion, Dr. Bujarbaruah stated that a university can achieve worldwide recognition only through its output in terms of human resources created and the contributions made in the field of research. He also expressed his satisfaction on the signing of the MoU and hoped that this will pave the way for exchange of expertise in various fields of Veterinary and Animal Sciences research between the two Universities, which may eventually lead to phenomenal growth in this sector in both the countries in future.

It is worth mentioning that the Faculty of Veterinary Science, AAU has earlier signed a similar MoU for bilateral cooperation with Sher-e-Bangla University of Agriculture, Dhaka. Under the provision of that MoU, the first batch of 30 undergraduate students from Sher-e-Bangla University of Agriculture will be visiting the Faculty of Veterinary Science, AAU from Dec. 2-16, 2017 for undergoing internship training at the Teaching Veterinary Clinical Complex in the Khanapara campus of AAU.

Inaugural Ceremony of New Campus, College of Fisheries, Raha

The new campus of the College of Fisheries was inaugurated on May 3, 2017. Hon'ble Central Minister of State for Railways Sri Rajen Gohain was the Chief Guest of the function. In addition, Sri Atul Bora, Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture, Vety. & Animal Husbandry, etc. Govt. of Assam; Dr. J.K Jena, Deputy Director General (Fishery), ICAR, New Delhi; Dr. P.M Das, Hon'ble Member of Board of Management and Sri Samsher Singh, Deputy Commissioner of Nagaon district were the Guests of Honour in the function. Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of AAU Dr. K. M. Bujarbaruah presided over the function. The Deans of all faculties of the University, the Directors, Heads of the different departments of constituent colleges, the Heads of KVVs, students of Veterinary College, AAU, Khanapara and many local eminent personalities were present in the meeting. Hon'ble Vice Chancellor welcomed the distinguished Guests and the gathering to this auspicious function. He elaborated on how this new campus of the College has come up after 30 years of existence. The Guests



of Honours lauded the Vice Chancellor for his untiring effort in bringing up this modern complex of the College. The Chief Guest, Sri Gohain also appreciated the Vice Chancellor for his commendable work. He hoped that with this facility the College will be able to march forward towards augmenting fish production in Assam and the neighbouring states. The function ended with a vote of thanks from Dr. K.K. Tamuli, Dean i/c, College of Fisheries, AAU, Raha.



SPECIAL FEATURES

ACHIEVEMENT

- * Dr. A. Rahman, Principal Scientist, AICRP on Honeybees and Pollinators, AAU, Jorhat Centre has authored the book "Apiculture in India" which has been published by Directorate of Knowledge Management in Agriculture, ICAR, New Delhi in 2017.
- * Dr. B. K. Barooah, Prof. & Head and Dr. Nivedita Deka, Professor, Dept. of Agricultural Economics, Faculty of Agriculture, AAU attended the Conclave of Sustainable Development Goal 1 (No Poverty) and Goal 2 (Zero Hunger) at Administrative Staff College, Guwahati Organized by, Government of Assam and Centre for Development Goals on 8th June, 2017. Dr. B. K. Barooah presented the synthesis of the discussion in the house.
- * Ms. Pratiksha Baisya, an MSc. Student of the Dept. of Agricultural Economics is awarded Assistanceship by University of Nebraska, USA, Lincoln to undergo MS (Agril. Economics).
- * Dr. Nivedita Deka, Professor, Dept. of Agricultural Economics, Faculty of Agriculture, Assam Agricultural University has bagged a competitive project entitled Prospect of Marketing of Medicinal Plants in the state of Assam funded by NMPB, Ministry of AYUSH for a period of two years 2017-2019 with a funding amount of Rs. 24.076 lakhs
- * Dr. Probodh Borah, Professor & Head, Dept. of Animal Biotechnology, College of Veterinary Science, AAU, Khanapara visited Chittagong, Bangladesh to act as a Resource Person for National Workshop on 'Tools and Techniques for Molecular Diagnosis of Infectious Diseases' organized by Chittagong Veterinary & Animal Sciences University, Chittagong on Sep. 14, 2017.

Dr. Borah has also been appointed as the Chairman of the Institutional Ethics Committee of Gauhati Medical College since September, 2017.
- * Dr. Luit Moni Barkalita, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Animal Biotechnology, College of Veterinary Science, AAU, Khanapara has been awarded the prestigious Netaji Subhash ICAR International Fellowship 2017-18 for pursuing Ph.D. at Laboratory of Molecular Bacteriology, Rega Institute for Medical Research, University of Leuven, Belgium.
- * Dr. R. Bhattacharyya, Professor, Dept. of FSN, FCSc, had acted as resource persons and delivered the

Keynote address in the National Seminar on "Indigenous Food of Different Community of North East India" organised by Digboi Mahila Mahavidyalaya, Digboi on Sep. 8-9, 2017.

- * Dr. Mridula Saikia Barooah, Prof., Dept. of FSN, FCSc was appointed as External member for Martin Luther Christian University, Shillong and attended Board of Studies meeting of the Dept. of Allied Health Sciences, MLCU, Shillong on Jul. 7, 2017.

Dr. Barooah was invited as Resource person to UGC sponsored National Seminar on "Indigenous Food of Different Community of North East India" organised by Digboi Mahila Mahavidyalaya on Sep. 8-9, 2017 and presented talk on "Dietary Diversity Through Biodiversity in Food Systems" and also Chaired a session.
- * Dr. Pranati Das, Professor and Head, Dept. of FSN, FCSc, attended a Brainstorming Workshop on Sep. 14, 2017 at NASC Complex, ICAR, New Delhi on "Reorientation of research priorities" under ICAR-Central Institute for Women in Agriculture (CIWA), Bhubaneswar.
- * Ms. Gitashree Goswami and Ms. Nayanmoni Saikia of Dept of ECM, College of Community Science, AAU received Best oral paper presentation awards in the National Seminar on Smart Farming enhancing Input use Efficiency, Income and Environmental Security (SEFEIS 2017), at ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Umiam, Meghalaya during Sep. 19-21, 2017
- * Dr. Sunayana Rathi, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Biochemistry & Agricultural Chemistry has successfully completed the Post Doctoral Research funded by the European Union under BRAVE programme for ten months (Dec. 1, 2016 to Sep. 30, 2017) at Leibniz Institute of Plant Biochemistry, Halle (Saale), Germany.
- * Dr. Bibha Chetia Borah, Principal Scientist and Officer in Charge, Fisheries Research Centre attended the 'Policy Workshop on Digital Learning in Agriculture with reference to Social Media' held at NAARM, Hyderabad from Jul. 5-7, 2017.
- * Shri Biswajyoti Bordoloi, Junior Scientist, FRC, AAU attended National Seminar on 'Strategies, Innovations and Sustainable Management for Enhancing Coldwater Fisheries and Aquaculture' held at DCFR, Bhimtal, Uttarakhand from Sep. 22-24, 2017.



International Literacy Day Celebrated

International Literacy Day was celebrated on Sep. 8, 2017 in Pirakota Bharalu Gaon by AICRP on Home Science. Dr. Manoshi Baruah Deka, Principal Scientist and Head, spoke



about Digital Literacy, the theme of this year's Literacy Day, explaining the information exchange using mobile, mobile banking, use of ATM card and use of different ICT material. A total of 55 rural women participated from different Self Help Groups. Dr. Mala Handique, Principal Scientist of Child Development component delivered a talk on "Importance of games on mental, intellectual and physical development of children" among the farm women.

National Fish Farmers' Day celebrated

National Fish Farmers' Day 2017 was celebrated at Fisheries Research Centre, AAU, Jorhat on July 10, 2017 with a day long programme. The theme of the awareness camp was 'Breeding and seed production of cultivable indigenous fish species'. A booklet on the theme written in vernacular language was released on the inaugural session of the programme. Chairing the inaugural session of the programme, Dr. G.N. Hazarika, DR (Agri.) encouraged the fish farmers to take up fish farming on commercial basis by following scientific technologies.



Earlier in the session, Dr. Bibha Chetia Borah, Principal Scientist and Officer in Charge, Fisheries Research Centre appraises the gathering about the significance of the day. The programme was attended by fish farmers/youths of Jorhat district.

'Swachhta Pakhwada' by NSS Cell

As encouraged by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (Govt. of India) with the NSS Regional Office, Guwahati the Assam Agricultural University in its constituent colleges organized a massive 'Swachhta Pakhwada' (Cleanliness fortnight) in August, 2017. Along with the rest of the country, this NSS Cell in collaboration with the Students' Society, observed 'Swachhta Pakhwada' during the month of August, 2017 at AAU campus.

Cleanliness drive (Swachh Bharat Abhiyan) by boarders in respective hostels and campuses were held in NSS Units of constituent colleges of AAU and in the Jorhat campus of the University too during Aug. 1 to 14, 2017.

Swachh Bharat Awareness procession by NSS volunteers in NSS Units of constituent colleges of AAU was organised. In the AAU Jorhat campus, a Placard Competition amongst NSS volunteers was held on Aug. 15, 2017. The volunteers held placards with slogans and messages on cleanliness. The responses from the local residents was quite encouraging throughout the drive.

Training on Tea Production to US students

The Dept. of Tea Husbandry & Technology has designed and offered for the first time a 'Summer Study Abroad Course' of 21 days duration on 'Black Tea Production, Processing and Management' for the undergraduate students of Rutgers University, New Jersey, USA.

The first batch of five students including three girls and two boys has joined the course beginning on Jun. 5, 2017 at AAU, Jorhat. The summer course termed as 'Tea Farm to Cup' was designed with a view to teaching the students the essentials of black tea production technology and its supply chain through an intensive experience-based learning environment. An inaugural function was held in this regard where the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Dr. K. M. Bujarbaruah formally welcomed the foreign students and expressed happiness for organising such type of a course at AAU. The inaugural session was also attended by all the statutory officers of the University and the faculty members of the Department of Tea Husbandry & Technology, AAU.



STUDENTS' WELFARE

International Day of Yoga observed

International Day of Yoga was observed in the Indoor stadium at AAU, Jorhat Campus on June 21, 2017. The event was held in presence of Dr D. K. Borah, Dean, College of Agriculture; Dr. C. Hazarika, Director, PG Studies and Dr. D. K. Bora, Director of Students' Welfare.



Attended also by over 150 teachers, students and staff members, the practical yoga session was facilitated by eminent Yoga expert Shri Swarup Sharma and his team on behalf of Vivekananda Kendra, Jorhat. The programme was jointly

organised by National Service Scheme- AAU Cell; Students' Society and All India Agricultural Students' Association, AAU, Jorhat.



"Yoga should not be an one-day event, but a regular way of life, for each one to remain strong with a healthy body and mind" stated Dr. D. K. Borah, Dean, College of Agriculture while making his concluding remarks. He also exhorted those present to imbibe yoga as a daily habit in their day-to-day life.

World Environment Day 2017 celebrated

On the occasion of World Environment Day, a ceremonial tree plantation programme was organized at AAU, Jorhat Campus on June 5, 2017. It was jointly organized by NSS Cell; Students' Society and All India Agricultural Students Association Unit (AIASA) of AAU Jorhat. It was started with an exhortation from the Dr. D. K. Borah, Dean, College of Agriculture highlighting this year's UN theme of "Connecting people with nature". The



plantation was started by Shri A Saikia, Registrar, AAU followed by Dr. S. Kaur, Dean, College of Community Science, Dr D K Bora, NSS Prog Coordinator & Director, Students' Welfare, AAU, Jorhat and other senior teachers and students of the Colleges of Agriculture, Community Science, Sericulture and Horticulture.

Another such plantation programme was held along with the members of the village community of Na Shyam gaon and Balijan Shyam Gaon at Kachukhat (under Sansad Adarsha Gram Yojana) near Titabar with the active involvement of NSS volunteers/students, staff and NSS Prog Officers of AAU. Jorhat.

Disaster – Preparedness Programme

A disaster - preparedness talk and demonstration for NSS volunteers, students and other officers/staff was organised on Sep 8, 2017 in the Dr. M.C. Das Memorial Auditorium, AAU Jorhat Campus with the help of the personnel and volunteers of the Civil Defense team, Jorhat District



Administration. The programme was organised by NSS Cell and EEI, AAU, Jorhat. More than 300 NSS volunteers, students and other officers/staff attended the programme. Officer participants from the NE Region, attending a training workshop also attended the programme.

NSS Day

NSS Day 2017 was successfully observed on Sep. 24, 2017 with the theme "Swachhta hi Seva (Cleanliness is service)" by NSS, AAU, Jorhat under the guidance of NSS-POs, Shri Apurba Das and Dr. Mira Kalita. On the occasion of NSS Day, a talk was delivered on the "Swachhta hi Seva" (Cleanliness is service) followed by discussion, presentation of cultural items and an essay competition. A Volunteer's Rally with placards was



brought out with the active support of Students' Society, AAU, Jorhat. More than 500 UG and PG students participated in the event.



SPECIAL FEATURES

Revamping the tea plantation in Tuensang, Nagaland

Tea was planted long back in many areas of Nagaland but due to lack of scientific know-how, those were abandoned by the growers. The World Bank has funded a project for revamping these abandoned tea plantations in Tuensang and adjoining areas of Nagaland and the department of Tea Husbandry and Technology, AAU was approached by the North East Rural Livelihood Promotion Society, Ministry of DoNER, Guwahati, Assam to help in rejuvenating the tea areas and to train the tea growers on scientific management of the tea plantations. Faculty members of the department have made several visits to those tea areas in an around Tuensang of Nagaland during last three months and advised the growers on revamping their plantations by following proper pruning, tipping and harvesting of crop which are organic by default. As a follow up of these visits, groups of tea farmers from Nagaland came to AAU. Visits were organised to commercial tea estates as well as some progressive small tea growers' of



Sivasagar, Golaghat and Sonitpur districts of Assam to expose the growers to the real situation of tea cultivation and processing. The farmers were also shown the processing of handmade Orthodox and Green tea. A series of institutional trainings of 7 days duration has also been formulated and as a part of it, the first 7 day training was organised at AAU, Jorhat campus on 'Husbandry Practices & Processing of Organic Tea' from Sep. 14-20, 2017 which was attended by twenty four tea farmers of Tuensang, Nagaland. More such institutional trainings will be organised under the project for other groups of farmers. Till now 358 beneficiaries are covered under the programme. The endeavour has already began to show results and some of the farmers in Tuensang, Nagaland have started producing handmade White Tea and Green Tea fetching prices ranging from Rs. 1000/- to Rs. 10,000/- per kg.

AAU donates Rs 30 lakh to CM's Relief Fund

Dr. Kamal Malla Bujarbaruah, the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, AAU, on behalf of the teachers and employees, handed over a cheque of Rs 30 lakh to



Chief Minister's Relief Fund on Sep. 8, 2017. The cheque was given to Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam Sjt. Sarbananda Sonowal in presence of Agriculture Minister, Govt. of Assam Sjt. Atul Bora and other University officials at the CM's office in Dispur.

ACHIEVEMENT

Dr. Proboodh Borah, Professor & Head, Department of Animal Biotechnology, College of Veterinary Science, AAU, Khanapara has been nominated as a member of the following Committees/Task Forces constituted by Department of Biotechnology, Govt. of India:

- * Apex Committee for North Eastern Region Biotechnology Programmes constituted to consider, recommend, evaluate and monitor proposals received from the North Eastern Region from September 2017 for next 3 years.
- * Task Force for 'Research Resources, Service Facilities and Platforms' and 'DBT-BUILDER Programme' (2017-19) since November 16, 2016.
- * Expert Committee constituted for the Review of Completed Indo-Japan Projects as well as to Review the proposal from AIST-Japan for up-gradation of FIALA into DIACENTRE for 3 years from July 2017.
- * Expert Committee constituted for the Atal Incubation Centres (DBT-NER AIC) Scheme launched by NITI Ayog for 3 years from September, 2017.



Oil India Project inaugurated

The project on Augmentation of Agriculture through Efficient Resource Utilization with Participatory Approach under the aegis of Oil India Limited (OIL) implemented by Oil India Rural Development Society (OIRDS) and Assam Agricultural University was inaugurated on June 4, 2017. The inauguration meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Dr. K. M. Bujarbaruah, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, AAU, Jorhat. Among the dignitaries, Mr B. P. Sharma, Resident Chief Executive, Oil India Ltd. Duliajan and other officers from Oil India Ltd., Duliajan and Dr. G.N. Hazarika, DR (Agri) and other scientists from AAU, Jorhat graced the occasion. Participating in the meeting, Sjt Binod Hazarika, Hon'ble MLA, Chabua LAC has urged upon all concerned to successfully implement the project and get the actual benefit out of it.



Sixth TSP Workshop on Rapeseed and Mustard

A TSP Workshop on "Augmenting Rapeseed-Mustard Production of Tribal Farmers for Sustainable Livelihood Security" under Tribal Sub Plan was held on June 22-23, 2017 at the AAU, Jorhat. Altogether sixteen participants from five different

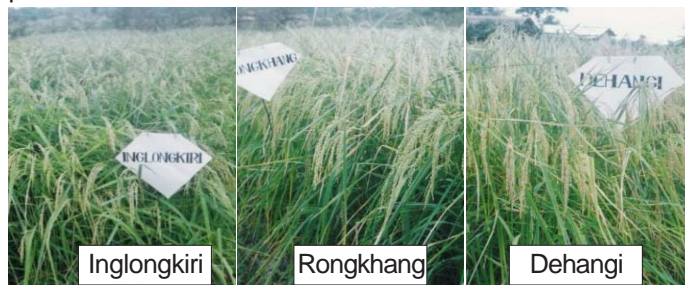


states took part in the workshop. In his introductory remarks, Dr. P.K. Rai, Director, ICAR-DRMR, Rajasthan briefly discussed the Prospects for Rapeseed - Mustard (R & M) cultivation in NE States under Tribal Sub Plan. Dr Premjit Singh, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, CAU, Imphal also attended the Workshop.

Direct seeded high yielding *Ahu* rice varieties of RARS, AAU, Diphu centrally notified for the state of Assam

Three direct seeded high yielding *Ahu* rice varieties – Inglongkiri (IC-559417), Rongkhang (IC-574472) and Dehangi (IC-574471) were notified for cultivation in the state of Assam by Central Sub-Committee on Crop Standards, Notification and Release of varieties for Agricultural Crops in their 77th meeting held on May 14-15, 2017 at CPRI, Shimla (H.P).

All the three varieties were developed under the leadership of Dr. A. Roy, Chief Scientist, RARS, Diphu. Out of all the three varieties Inglongkiri had already gained popularity among the farmers of the hills zone as well as plain districts of Assam and other NE states. All the varieties



are tolerant to drought, moderately tolerant to lodging, resistant to neck blast and moderately resistant to gandhibug and rice hispa. All the three varieties have weed suppressing ability. Duration of all the varieties ranges from 110-120 days with a yield performance of more than 3.0 t/ha under rainfed situation.

RECENT ADDITIONS TO THE RESEARCH PROJECT POOL

Title of the Project	Principal Investigator	Funding Agency	Amount (Rs.)
Development of mutant with noval characteristics in Gladiolus through irradiation	Dr. R.Borkakoty Phukan	BRNS	22.87 lakh
Integrated approach to understand agarwood formation and value addition of Agarwood (<i>Aquilaria matakensis</i>)	Dr. M. Barooah	DBT	15.17 lakh
Structural and functional genomics study of deepwater adaptation of local rice land races of Assam	Dr. P. Sen	DBT	36.74 lakh
Developing bioactive compound -enriched functional food ingredient from <i>Dillenia indica</i> and valorisation of its pomace	Dr. M. Das Purkayastha	DBT	42.15 lakh
Prospect of marketing of medicinal plants in Assam and the North Eastern India	Dr. (Mrs.) N. Deka	NMPB, Ministry of Ayush, GoI	24.076 lakh
Molecular diagnostics, transcriptomics and cisgenic approaches to combat citrus greening (huanglongbing) disease of citrus	Dr. S. Singh	DBT	52.10 lakh
Post harvest loss assessment and PoPs of post harvest management of some important medicinal plants of Assam	Dr. P. C. Baruah	NMPB, Ministry of Ayush, GoI	27.667 lakh
Development of tea poly-phenol -rapeseed protein microencapsulate for delivery of bioactive ingredients in functional foods: <i>in-vitro</i> and <i>in vivo</i> study	Dr. M. Das Purkayastha	DBT	123.00 lakh





Celebration of World Zoonoses Day

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bongaigaon celebrated "World Zoonoses Day" at Dhontola village under Boitamari Block of Bongaigaon on Jul. 6, 2017 to help raise awareness of the growing risk of zoonotic diseases which can be spread naturally from animal to human and vice-versa. On this occasion the farming community was made aware regarding the source, transmission, disease symptoms, treatment and control of some prevailing zoonotic diseases like rabies, influenza, brucellosis, Japanese encephalitis, parasitic diseases such as tapeworm infection. Main emphasis was given on control measures of zoonotic diseases and hygiene and sanitation. A total of 35 numbers of farmers and farm women attended the programme.



Celebration of World Honey Bee Day

The World Honey Bee Day was organised at KVK, Sonitpur on Aug. 19, 2017 to create mass awareness about the importance of honeybee in the agricultural ecosystem. A total of 30 progressive farmers of the district actively participated in the awareness programme. In the welcome address, Dr. P.C. Deka, Head, KVK, Sonitpur emphasized the importance of bee keeping in the economic upliftment of the farmers. Besides, he highlighted the importance of honeybees and their role in cross pollination of agriculturally significant crops like toria. Special Guest, Dr. R.Thakuria, Chief Scientist, AICRP, Water Management encouraged the farmers for taking bee keeping as an income generating avenue. Invited resource person, Mr. Zakir Hussain, ADO, Sonitpur elaborated about the practice of scientific bee keeping and demonstrated the use of special tools and appliances for maintenance of bee colonies and extraction of honey. Mr. Dijen Das, a honey bee rearer was also felicitated on the day by KVK, Sonitpur. A group of honey bee keeper was formed with interested farmers on that day.



Celebration of World Environment Day by KVK, Bongaigaon

With the theme "Connecting people to nature", Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bongaigaon celebrated "World Environment Day" on Jun. 5 2017 in the premises of Dhalagaon M. E. school, Boitamari, Bongaigaon. At the outset, Dr. C. K. Sarma, Head, KVK, Bongaigaon narrated the objectives of the programme and described this year's theme of World Environment Day. Addressing the gathering of 90 school children, distinguished guests, parents, teachers, farmers and farm women, Ms. Leena Singha, President, Bongaigaon Zila Parishad, Assam and Chairman of the programme delivered a speech on significance of celebrating World Environment Day. She also discussed the importance of planting trees for the well being of nature and to reduce the loss of biodiversity. Dr. S.K. Paul, Chief Scientist, RARS, Gossaigaon, AAU addressed the gathering as Chief Guest and emphasized on various aspects of environmental conservation including safe and judicious use of agrochemicals, non-chemical methods of pest management to reduce the environmental pollution. An extempore speech competition for students was also organized on this occasion to bring the interest of students towards the nature and its conservation.



Handing and taking over the land for KVK permanent site

A total of 66.67 ha of land area near Simonchapor was handed over to Assam Agricultural University for the establishment of KVK Dhemaji by the District Administration of Dhemaji on Sep. 9, 2017. The land was taken over by the Registrar, Director of Extension Education and the Associate Director of Extension Education (Training), AAU, Jorhat.





EXTENSION

Visit of Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra, DG , ICAR, New Delhi to KVK, Sonitpur

The Secretary, DARE & Director General, ICAR, New Delhi, Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra visited KVK, Sonitpur on May 27, 2017, along with top officials of the ICAR to oversee the activities of the centre. Dr. H. C. Bhattacharyya, DEE, AAU Jorhat welcomed the team and presented a brief review of works done in the KVKs under AAU. The team visited different demonstration units located at the KVK farm and interacted with a group of progressive farmers who have been taking technical guidance of the Kendra. During interaction with the farmers, Dr. Mohapatra emphasised on doubling the farm income within next five years .



Skill Development Training on Livestock Farming

To develop entrepreneurial skill and also creation of self employment of the rural woman & educated girls through livestock farming, the Directorate of Extension Education, AAU, Khanapara organized two nos. of five-day training programmes entitled 'Skill Development Training on Poultry Farming' on April 3-7, 2017 and 'Skill Development Training on Pig Farming' during April 24-28, 2017, respectively. Altogether 51 educated girls and members of women SHGs of Demoria Block attended the training programmes.



On farm trial of protective clothing kit

Emphasizing the physical health status of agricultural workers of Assam, a "Protective clothing kit" was developed under AICRP on Home Science, Dept. of Textile Apparel Designing for different agriculture and allied activities. The

scientifically constructed kit comprises head gear, apron and pant which is intended to protect the farmers/workers against dirt, dust, insect bite, itching, scorching heat of the sun during harvesting, threshing and winnowing of paddy and other crops. On farm trial (OFT) of the developed kit was carried out successfully in different KVKs of AAU viz., Sibsagar, Jorhat, Dhemaji, Kamrup, Sonitpur and Karimganj. The farmers/users found it suitable and expressed their satisfaction and acceptance of the kit for different agricultural activities.

Vocational training on Seed production technology

A vocational training on "Seed production of sali paddy and pulses" was organised by KVK, Cachar during June 10-13, 2017 at SDO office of Sonai block of Cachar district. Altogether 28 numbers of progressive farmers and farm women from different villages of Sonai block participated in this programme. The training was coordinated by KVK, Cachar and the resource persons were from State Agril. Dept.; Assam Seed Certification Agency, Silchar and scientists of KVK, Cachar.



Pineapple cultivation under the Project "ARYA"

The project 'Attracting and Retaining Youth in Agriculture (ARYA) was launched in the month of Nov., 2016 by KVK, Karbi Anglong. Considering the importance of pineapple cultivation in hill slopes of Karbi Anglong,



Pineapple was selected as one of the components to attract the rural youth towards agriculture and allied activities for and to own agriculture as their profession. Since the project began, 10 numbers of youth were selected for cultivation of pineapple variety "Kew". Pineapple suckers were distributed to the selected youth.

NEWS FROM ATIC

Farmers' visit : A total of 953 farmers visited ATIC and were provided advisory services.

Products sold : Paddy seeds of different HYV, vegetables, Biofor-PF, tea, jaggery, etc. were sold.

ATIC continues to be an active collaborator in Gyan Yatra Programme of Govt. of Assam

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