



Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University

Pusa, Samastipur, Bihar-848 125

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for Superannuating Staff

FROM THE DESK OF VICE-CHANCELLOR

Dear Readers,

I am delighted to present the September 2025 edition of our university e-newsletter, showcasing the remarkable achievements and milestones that our university accomplished during the month of August, which truly exemplify our commitment to excellence in agricultural education, research, and extension.

I am immensely proud to announce that Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University has secured the 8th position in the prestigious India Today-MDRA Ranking 2025 among best government universities across the country. This outstanding achievement is a testament to our collective dedication to academic excellence, quality research, innovation, and unwavering commitment to farmers' welfare. This recognition reinforces our growing national prominence and motivates us to strive for even greater heights.

The month of August was marked by several significant celebrations and achievements. Our university celebrated the 79th Independence Day with great patriotic fervour, showcasing the cultural talents of our students. The 65th Foundation Day of Tirhut College of Agriculture, Dhuli was celebrated with grandeur, where over 70 medals and certificates were awarded to deserving students across various competition of Sports, Arts and Rangoli making etc. highlighting our holistic approach to education. Our commitment to curriculum innovation was evident through the One-Day Awareness Seminar on "Orientation on Student READY Programme" organized by the College of Basic Sciences & Humanities. This initiative reflects our dedication to experiential learning and preparing future-ready agricultural graduates who can meet the evolving challenges of the agricultural sector.

The productive Scientific Advisory Committee meetings of our Krishi Vigyan Kendras at Madhopur, Narkatiaganj, Saraiya, and Turki demonstrated our strong extension network and commitment to grassroots agricultural development. These platforms enable us to strengthen our action plans and serve better to our farming communities.

Our environmental consciousness was showcased during the "Gajar Ghas (Parthenium) Unmoolan Saptah," where the entire university community actively participated in awareness and eradication activities, demonstrating our responsibility towards ecological sustainability.

The successful completion of the six-day residential training programme on "Integrated Fish Farming for Better Production" and our extensive outreach efforts that trained 3,433 farmers, rural youth, rural women, and extension workers in various agricultural technologies reflect our unwavering commitment to knowledge dissemination and rural development.

As we move forward into September, let us carry this momentum and continue our mission of transforming lives through agricultural education and innovation. Our success lies in our collective efforts, dedication, and the shared vision of building a prosperous and sustainable agricultural future for our nation.

I extend my heartfelt congratulations to all faculty members, staff, and students for their contributions to these achievements and encourage everyone to maintain this spirit of excellence.

With warm regards and best wishes,



(P. S. Pandey)

GENERAL ACTIVITIES

RPCAU, Pusa Celebrated 79th Independence Day with Zeal and Patriotism

On 15th August 2025, Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University (RPCAU), Pusa, Bihar, celebrated the 79th Independence Day with great enthusiasm, dignity, and patriotic fervour. The university campus was adorned with the colours of the tricolour, creating a vibrant and inspiring atmosphere. The celebration commenced with the hoisting of the National Flag by the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Dr. P. S. Pandey, followed by the rendition of the National Anthem by all present, filling the air with a sense of unity and pride. The event further included a series of cultural programmes, patriotic songs, and performances by students, which showcased the rich diversity of India and evoked the spirit of freedom and sacrifice. In his Independence Day address, the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor extended his warm greetings to all teachers, employees, students, farmers, and every citizen of the country. He remarked, "Independence Day is not merely a celebration of freedom, but a solemn reminder of our duties, responsibilities, and contribution to nation-building. Let us all work together with dedication and commitment towards creating a prosperous, self-reliant, and progressive India"



RPCAU Pusa Shines in India Today Rankings

A proud moment for Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University (RPCAU), Pusa, as it has been ranked #8 among the Top 10 General Universities (Government) in the prestigious *India Today Best Colleges 2025* rankings. Expressing his delight, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, RPCAU Dr. P.S. Pandey congratulated the entire university fraternity for their consistent dedication and collective efforts. He urged everyone to continue working in unison to uphold RPCAU's legacy of excellence, nurturing knowledge and fostering innovation in agriculture for the greater benefit of the nation.

INDIA TODAY **MDRA**
Subscribe Magazine

BEST COLLEGES OF INDIA 2025

TOP 10 GENERAL UNIVERSITIES (GOVERNMENT)

RANK 2025	RANK 2024	RANK 2023	RANK 2022	RANK 2021	UNIVERSITY
1	2	2	2	2	UNIVERSITY OF DELHI, NEW DELHI
2	1	1	1	1	JAWAHARLAL NEHRU UNIVERSITY, NEW DELHI
3	3	3	4	4	ALIGARH MUSLIM UNIVERSITY, ALIGARH
4	4	4	3	3	UNIVERSITY OF HYDERABAD, HYDERABAD
5	5	7	7	NP	OSMANIA UNIVERSITY, HYDERABAD
6	6	9	12	12	GURU GOBIND SINGH INDRAPRASTHA UNIVERSITY, NEW DELHI
7	7	11	10	10	COCHIN UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY, KOCHI
8	9	10	9	9	DR. RAJENDRA PRASAD CENTRAL AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, PUSA, SAMASTIPUR
9	8	13	13	14	BHARATHIAR UNIVERSITY, COIMBATORE
10	12	16	18	15	ACHARYA NAGARJUNA UNIVERSITY, GUNTUR

This recognition underscores RPCAU Pusa's continued commitment to academic quality, research innovation, and its vital role in advancing India's agricultural education and development.

65 Years of Excellence: TCA, Dholi Marks Foundation Day with Progress and Celebrations

On 18th August 2025, Tirhut College of Agriculture (TCA), Dholi, RPCAU, Pusa, celebrated its 65th Foundation Day in the esteemed presence of Dr. P. S. Pandey, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, RPCAU, Pusa. The event was graced by all Deans, Directors, Registrar, ADSW, faculty members, staff, and students. On this momentous occasion, Dr. P. P. Singh, Dean, TCA, presented the annual progress report, showcasing the college's notable achievements in academics, research, and extension activities during the past year. The Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, impressed by the steady and holistic development of the college, expressed his deep appreciation and extended his blessings for its continued growth and excellence in the years to come. The celebration also featured a vibrant cultural programme presented by the students, which added colour and enthusiasm to the occasion. As part of the event, more than 70 medals and certificates were awarded to students who excelled in various competitions, including volleyball, football, table tennis, debate, elocution, rangoli making, and hostel cleanliness contests, thereby recognizing and encouraging their talent and participation.



RPCAU, Pusa, Observed 20th Parthenium Awareness Week

On 22nd August 2025, Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University (RPCAU), Pusa, actively observed the 20th Parthenium Awareness Week, an annual initiative of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) aimed at combating the invasive weed *Parthenium hysterophorus*. The nationwide campaign was held from August 16–22, 2025, with RPCAU undertaking various activities to raise awareness about the weed's detrimental effects on agriculture, environment, and human health. The programme at RPCAU was organized by the Directorate of Research and was graced by the presence of Dr. P. S. Pandey, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, RPCAU, along with Deans, Directors, faculty members, and students. On the occasion, the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor emphasized the harmful impacts of Parthenium and urged scientists to explore innovative and sustainable

strategies, including the development of value-added products from its derivatives, to address the growing menace of this weed.



Student READY Programme Orientation Seminar Held at RPCAU, Pusa

On 23rd August 2025, College of Basic Sciences & Humanities, RPCAU, Pusa, organized a One-Day Awareness Seminar on “Orientation on Student READY Programme under the 6th Dean Committee Curricula”, with the objective of familiarizing students and faculty members with the goals, structure, and implementation strategies of the Rural Entrepreneurship Awareness Development Yojana (READY). The programme was graced by the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Dr. P. S. Pandey, along with Deans, Directors, faculty members and undergraduate students of various colleges of RPCAU, and featured technical presentations by Student READY Coordinators who shared insights on the current status, best practices, and strategies for effective execution under the 6th Dean Committee curricula. In the Presidential Address, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor underscored the importance of the Student READY Programme in bridging the gap between theory and practice, fostering entrepreneurship, and preparing future-ready agricultural professionals through components such as RAW, Experiential Learning Units, In-Plant Training, and Skill Development modules. The Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor further emphasized the significance of the Experiential Learning Programme (ELP) component, suggesting the incorporation of more ELP modules to provide students with greater practical exposure and stressing the need to acquaint them with rural realities for holistic learning. The seminar witnessed



enthusiastic participation from students and faculty, sparking interactive discussions and reinforcing the collective commitment of RPCAU to strengthen experiential learning and produce confident, innovative, and competent agricultural graduates.

EDUCATION & EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

CBSH, Pusa organized presentations by Ph.D. scholars Ms. Zeba and Mr. Rishikesh on 01-08-25. Ms. Zeba presented her work on “Meta-Analysis of Genomic Regions for Stress Tolerance in Finger Millet”. Mr. Rishikesh delivered his seminar on “Molecular Studies of Brassinosteroids Mediated Stress Tolerance in Finger Millet”. The session was attended by faculty members, researcher scholars and students.



RPCAU, Pusa in collaboration with ICRISAT, Hyderabad, has achieved a major breakthrough in pigeon pea research. Mr. Rangari Sagar Krushnaji, Ph.D. Scholar, Department of Agricultural Biotechnology and Molecular Biology (ABMB), identified *Ccsmd04*, a gene conferring resistance to Sterility Mosaic Disease (SMD), the most destructive disease of pigeon pea. The findings were published in the *International Journal of Biological Macromolecules* (Impact Factor: 8.5; NAAS 2025: 13.70) and will accelerate marker-assisted breeding of high-yielding, SMD-resistant varieties, reducing crop losses and supporting farmer livelihoods. Mr. Krushnaji also presented his research in a seminar on August 30, 2025, at Mahabhashya Hall, CBS&H, RPCAU, where he shared insights on genetic and molecular mechanisms of disease resistance in pigeon pea.



RPCAU, Pusa Promotes Safe Campus through Anti-Ragging Week 2025 As part of the nationwide observance of Anti-Ragging Week in August 2025, different constituent colleges of RPCAU, Pusa organized a series of awareness programmes and sensitization activities to educate students about the ill effects of ragging and to foster a safe, inclusive, and respectful campus environment. The programmes included lectures, interactive sessions, poster campaigns, and pledge-taking ceremonies, emphasizing the university's zero-tolerance policy towards ragging. Faculty members, wardens, Anti-Ragging Squad and Committee Members and student

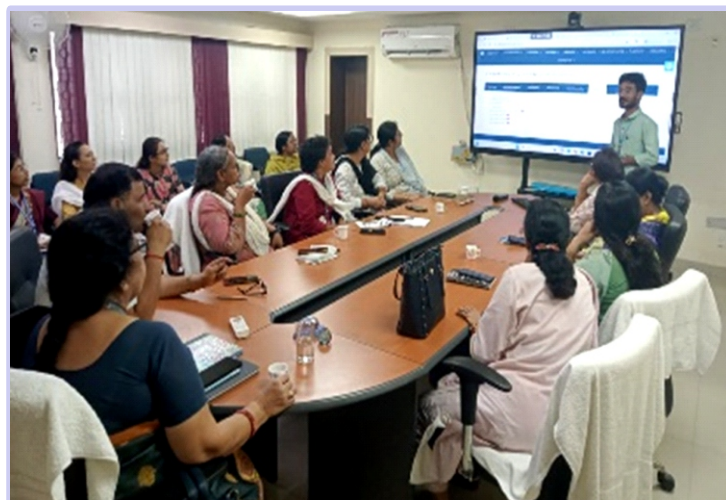
representatives actively participated in spreading awareness, ensuring that new entrants feel welcomed and secure. These initiatives reflected RPCAU's strong commitment to upholding discipline, mutual respect, and harmony across its campuses.



The University Library successfully organized a series of awareness-cum-workshops on **"MyLOFT, E-Resources and Author Profile Registration for Research Visibility"** across the various colleges of our university (College of Community Science, Pusa on 13-08-2025, Tirhut College of Agriculture on 21-08-2025, College of Fisheries, Dholi on 22-08-2025, College of Basic Science & Humanities on 28-08-2025). This outreach initiative aimed to standardise research support and boost the global academic presence of faculty and research scholars across the world. Besides, the participants were trained for registration on "MyLOFT- My Library on Finger Tips"- a mobile app recently implemented in University Library to extend round the clock accessibility of digital resources on/off campus users. The workshops were systematically scheduled and executed in colleges spanning different disciplines and within the university's structure, ensuring maximum participation and accessibility for all academic staff and



students. A total of 98 students/faculty attended the said awareness programme.



The Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Dr. P.S. Pandey donated the books covering data science, agricultural statistics and design, computer science *etc.* to enrich the University Library Book Collection. The students and faculties in the said domain found these books highly useful for their academic and research work.



RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

Scientists participated in Annual Group Meeting of ICAR-AICRP on Rabi Pulses: A team of scientists from Tirhut College of Agriculture, Dholi, comprising Dr. Sunil Kumar, Dr. Sangita Sahani, and Dr. Ravikant from RRS, Madhopur, participated in the 30th Annual Group Meeting on Rabi Pulses, held during August 19–21, 2025. The meeting was organised by the ICAR–All India Coordinated Research Project on Rabi Pulses at Rani Lakshmi bai Central Agricultural University, Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh.



MoU Signed between RPCAU and PATH : Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University, Pusa and Programme for Appropriate Technology in Health (PATH) have formally entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to establish a Technical Support Unit (TSU) aimed at advancing

nutrition programs in Bihar. MoU signing ceremony, held on 12 August 2025 at the RPCAU campus, was graced by Dr. Mrityunjay Kumar, Registrar (RPCAU) along with Deans, Directors and faculty members from CCS and other units of the University. From PATH, Dr. Sachin Gupte delivered the keynote address and briefed the audience on PATH's work in India and across the world. Mr Kumar Saurabh highlighted the organizations' work in Bihar on the nutrition and rice fortification program.

Vanmahotsav 2025: RPCAU Plants 400 Bamboo Culms for Ecological Restoration of Dhab Area. The Department of Forestry, PGCA, RPCAU, celebrated Vanmahotsav with a massive bamboo plantation at Gorai Ghat Dhab. Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Dr. P.S. Pandey inaugurated the campaign, joined by university dignitaries and students. Nearly 400 culms of Bambusa balcooa, B. bambos, B. tulda, and B. nutans were planted in 5 hectares area for ecological restoration. Dr. Pandey highlighted bamboo's role in ecotourism, land rehabilitation, carbon sequestration, and rural livelihoods. The initiative underscores RPCAU's commitment to sustainable forestry, climate action, and community sensitization under national afforestation goals.



EXTENSION

Rural Youth Training Programme Organized: KVK Vaishali organized five days training programme from 12th to 16th Aug, 2025 on Banana Processing for rural youth. Sr. Scientist & Head motivated and emphasized on paying special

attention to value addition along with production so that rural youth can establish their enterprises. During the training programme SMS- Ag. Engineering provided practical training on banana chips, banana powder. Lecture were delivered on Online application of GST, FSSAI, importance of banana health benefits, value added products, government schemes for entrepreneurship development, food licence. Total 30 (15 Female and 15 Male) trainees attended the training.



Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Turki organized Live Telecast programme on PM Kisan Samman Nidhi 20th installment released to farmers in this event Chief Guest Sri Rajbhusan Chaudhary Hon'ble Minister of State for Ministry of Jal Shakti, Govt. of India and Special Guest Sri Kedar Prasad Gupta Hon'ble Minister of Panchayati raj Govt. of Bihar. The programme was started at 11.00AM wherein Hon'ble Prime Minister released the 20th instalment for farmers. In this programme 655 farmers and farmwomen participated at KVK campus on 02.08.2025.



RPCAU Krishi Gyan Vahan Connects Farmers via PM-KISAN Live Streaming : Krishi GyanVahan (KGV) flagship initiative under 4th Bihar Krishi Road Map actively participated in live streaming of Hon'ble PM address under PM-KISAN Samman Nidhi Yojana organized at KVK Turki, Muzaffarpur on 2nd August 2025. This Vahan addressed large number of farmers from various panchayats via live streaming and highlighted the importance of Bihar's 4th Krishi Road Map and its multi-dimensional aspects for sustainable and inclusive agricultural growth reinforced RPCAU's mission of farmer-centric digital communication and empowered farmers. This event was highly participatory and impactful. The programme was graced by the esteemed presence of Shri Raj Bhushan Chaudhary, Minister of State of Ministry of Jal Shakti, along



Training programme on INM at KVK Saran : Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Saran, organized the first batch of a 15-day certificate course program on Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) from 21.08.2025 to 04.09.2025. In this programme total 40 fertilizer and prospective fertilizer dealers participated from different blocks of Saran district and 37 Certificates were issued to the participants on the basis of their attendance. The program was inaugurated by Dr. Ratnesh Kumar Jha, Professor, Directorate of Extension, RPCAU, Pusa. The 15-day training program covered classroom sessions and field visit. INM classes were taken by different scientists and agricultural officers. The main objective of this program was to acquaint fertilizer dealers about integrated nutrient management and enable them to renew their license for fertilizer dealership.



Parthenium Awareness Week : The 20th Parthenium Awareness Week was organised at KVK Narkatiyaganj from 16-22 August 2025. In this programme the KVK staff members launched a Parthenium eradication drive at the KVK premises. Farmers were also made aware regarding the ill effects of Parthenium through lectures and leaflets.



TRAINING/WORKSHOP/SEMINAR/

AWARENESS PROGRAMMES ORGANIZED

RPCAU Successfully Hosts Buyer–Seller Meet on Medicinal and Aromatic Plants : The All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) on Medicinal and Aromatic Plants & Betelvine, Post Graduate College of Agriculture (PGCA), Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University (RPCAU), Pusa, successfully organized a “Buyer–Seller Meet on Medicinal and Aromatic Plants for SCSP” at the Vidyapati Sabhagar, RPCAU on 26th Aug 2025. The event served as an important platform for knowledge sharing, technical exchange, and the promotion of direct linkages between producers and buyers, aimed at strengthening market opportunities and fostering collaborations in the medicinal and aromatic plant (MAP) sector. Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor Dr. P. S. Pandey presided over the meet and emphasized the increasing significance of medicinal and aromatic plants in the healthcare and wellness industries. Dr. Manish Das, Director, ICAR–DMAPR, Anand, highlighted the potential of MAPs as high-value crops capable of enhancing farmers' income and supporting livelihood diversification. Dr. Anil Rai, ADG (ICT), ICAR, also addressed the gathering, stressing the need for innovation, technology adoption, and digital integration in advancing the MAP value chain.

In alignment with the vision of “Atmanirbhar Bharat,” the meet aimed to promote self-reliance and entrepreneurship through MAP cultivation and value addition in Bihar. The meet concluded with a collective call to strengthen institutional, industrial, and farmer-level partnerships to unlock the untapped potential of the MAP sector and contribute to rural prosperity and sustainable economic growth.



VISIT OF DIGNITARIES

Dr. Manish Das

Director, ICAR-Directorate of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants Research, Anand visited RPCAU Pusa on 26.08.2025

Dr Anil Rai

Assistant Director General (ICT), ICAR visited RPCAU Pusa on 26.08.2025

FAREWELL

➤ A Farewell ceremony for the following university employee who superannuated from university service on 30 August 2025 was organized in the gracious presence of Registrar, RPCAU, Pusa

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Er. Kranti Kumar
Associate. Professor, CAET | 4. Shri Ganesh Rai
LDC, TCA, Dholi |
| 2. Shri Dinesh Pd. Singh
Assistant, Rectt. Sec. | 5. Shri Sahbir Mahto
SSS, TCA, Dholi |
| 3. Shri Sukund Pd. Singh
TO (T-5), Pusa Farm | |



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