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Directorate of Extension  
Education, JAU.  
Junagadh-362001

Phone: (0285) 2671669

URL: <http://jau.in/index.php/jau-news-letter>

Email: [dee@jau.in](mailto:dee@jau.in);  
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*From the Vice Chancellor's Desk*

*Secondary Agriculture for Maximizing Income and Climate Resilience*

Agricultural crops in India produce vast amount of waste every year, including crop residues and byproducts. When mismanaged, this waste contributes to air pollution, soil degradation, and the squandering of valuable resources, leading to significant economic and environmental costs. To address these challenges, numerous initiatives are now advocating for waste-to-energy technologies, recycling, and sustainable farming practices. Utilizing secondary agricultural products offers tremendous potential, particularly for smallholder farmers, by providing additional income,



supporting sustainable development, and reducing environmental impact. By converting residues and byproducts into valuable goods like bioenergy, animal feed, and processed foods, farmers can diversify their income sources, increase profitability, and create a more resilient agricultural economy. Although there are challenges, such as limitations in infrastructure and technology, investments in research, training, and supportive policies are essential to fully realize the benefits of these resources. These secondary agricultural products contribute to bioenergy production, carbon sequestration, and greater climate resilience. Secondary agricultural products play a crucial role in enhancing farmers' income by providing additional revenue streams from what would otherwise be waste.

Secondary agricultural products offer multiple benefits. For example, bioenergy can be generated from crop residues like rice husk and wheat straw, helping reduce dependency on fossil fuels. Agro-waste composting, another effective use, enhances soil health by improving soil structure and storing carbon. Income diversification is also possible, as products like herbal extracts and processed foods provide additional revenue streams for farmers. By processing these secondary products, we can also reduce food loss and extend shelf life, creating a more sustainable food system. Byproducts such as bran serve as valuable livestock feed, supporting more sustainable animal husbandry practices, while repurposing agricultural waste contributes to a circular economy by producing bio-based materials that reduce overall waste.

There are various types of secondary products. For example, oilseeds and oils, which are widely used in cooking, cosmetics, and as biofuels, demonstrate the versatility of agricultural byproducts. Crop residues can be converted into biomass fuels, animal feed, or fertilizers. Plant extracts, with applications in pharmaceuticals and nutraceuticals, further showcase the potential of agricultural waste. Natural fibers like cotton, jute, and hemp provide raw materials for textiles and construction, while natural dyes, derived from crops such as indigo and beetroots, offer sustainable alternatives to synthetic dyes.

Looking at specific crops, we find valuable examples of secondary products. Groundnut, for instance, yields groundnut oil, peanut butter, and peanut hulls, which are used in food, cosmetics, and animal feed. Castor oil and castor meal from castor crops are utilized in fertilizers and cosmetics, while cotton provides cottonseed oil for cooking, cottonseed meal for animal feed, and cotton stalks for bioenergy production.

In conclusion, optimizing the use of secondary agricultural products has the potential to turn agricultural waste into valuable resources, supporting economic growth, environmental sustainability, and resilience against climate challenges.

**(V. P. Chovatia)**



## Seventh Annual Zonal Workshop of Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs)

The Seventh Annual Zonal Workshop of Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) of Maharashtra, Gujarat, and Goa was organized during September 04-06, 2024, by ICAR-ATARI, Zone-VIII, Pune, and Junagadh Agricultural University, Junagadh. Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, JAU graced the Inaugural Function of the workshop as the Chief Guest. The workshop began with a warm welcome from Dr. S. K. Roy, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Pune who provided an insightful overview of the KVK's vital role in agricultural research and extension services. A total of 27 dignitaries and 82 senior scientists and heads of KVKs actively participated in the workshop.



During the second day, Dr. U. S. Gautam, Deputy Director General (Agril. Ext.), ICAR, New Delhi, joined the proceedings. He was welcomed by Dr. Chovatia and Dr. Jadav, who also oversaw the digital inauguration of the KVK Rajkot II and KVK Morbi buildings in Gujarat. A highlight of the day was the presentation of the Sardar Smruti Kendra Rajat Jayanti Award for 2022-23 to Shri Vindodbhai J. Patel from Dhrangadhra village, Surendranagar district, in recognition of his exceptional contributions to quality millet production through organic farming.



Additionally, the Directors of Extension Education from the State Agricultural Universities of Gujarat, Goa, and Maharashtra have presented their annual reports of KVK activities from January to December 2023. Dr. U. S. Gautam also engaged in an interactive session with the senior scientists and heads of KVKs from Zone VIII. Various extension literature and books were inaugurated by the dignitaries present.

The workshop concluded with a heartfelt vote of thanks from Dr. T. Rajesh, Scientist, ICAR-ATARI, Pune, expressing gratitude to all dignitaries and participants for their valuable contributions and presence.



## Diploma Certificate Distribution Program and Unveiling Digi-Locker platform

The 13<sup>th</sup> Diploma certificate distribution ceremony of the university was held on July 23, 2024. Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble VC, presided over the ceremony, while Shri Parshottambhai V. Kamani, renowned industrialist and representative of Education World, Bangalore, graced the occasion as the Guest of honour. During the event, 173 students received diploma certificates. The event also marked the inauguration of DigiLocker for diploma certificates from 2016 onwards, enhancing students' ease of access to store and share their documents online. Dr. V. P. Chovatia emphasized the importance of diploma education in shaping the next-generation farming and praised the efforts of Dr. Y. H. Ghelani, Registrar, and his team for strengthening the university's digitalization drive through this state-of-the-art digital platform. Dr. R. B. Madariya, DR, and Dr. H. D. Rank, Principal & Dean, CAET, JAU, Junagadh, were also present at the ceremony.





## Inauguration of bus donated by ASPEE Foundation, Mumbai

The inauguration ceremony for the bus donated by the ASPEE Agricultural Research and Development Foundation, Mumbai, for student of ASPEE College of Agriculture, JAU, Khapat, took place on July 27, 2024. The event was presided over by Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, with Shri Arjun Modhwadia, MLA, Porbandar, as the guest of honour. Dr. R. B. Madariya, DR; Dr. N. B. Jadav, DEE; and Dr. H. R. Vadar, Principal of the college, also remained present. Dr. Chovatia expressed gratitude to the ASPEE foundation for its generous gesture and support.



## MoUs Signed

### JAU and Solidaridad Regional Expertise Centre, New Delhi

The MoU was signed between JAU and Solidaridad Regional Expertise Centre, New Delhi for dissemination of modern methods and technology in agriculture and allied subjects to the farmers of villages of Jamnagar and Devbhumi-Dwarka districts on August 09, 2024. The MoU was signed in the presence of Hon'ble VC, JAU Dr. V. P. Chovatia and DR, Dr. R. B. Madariya, DEE, Dr. N. B. Jadav and Mr. Kumar Raghavendra, Program Manager (Solidaridad).



### JAU and PDEU, Gandhinagar

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was inked between JAU and Pandit Deendayal Energy University (PDEU), Gandhinagar, on August 23, 2024 to strengthen the partnership between both institutions in the fields of research and education. The signing ceremony was held under the chairmanship of Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble VC, JAU. The MoU was signed by Dr. R. B. Madariya, DR, and Prof. Indrajit Mukhopadhyay, representative of Dr. S. Sundar, DG, PDEU.



## Training on Blended Learning Programme

JAU adopted the Blended Learning Programme (BLP) platform hosted by ICAR-IASRI, New Delhi, under NAHEP. The IT Cell, JAU organized a training program on Blended Learning for various colleges during the first fortnight of September 2024. The training, led by Dr. D. J. Patel covered the platform's user interface and features, such as adding courses, monitoring student attendance, setting up video calls and recordings, and usage of the interactive whiteboard.



## Inter-College Literary Contest

The ASPEE College of Agriculture, JAU, Khapat organized Intercollege Debate, Spot Debate, and Extempore Competitions on September 13, 2024. The event aimed to provide a platform for students to showcase their communication, analytical, and impromptu speaking skills. It witnessed enthusiastic participation from students representing various colleges under JAU, making it a vibrant and intellectually stimulating occasion. The competitions were designed to test the participants' ability to think critically and articulate their views on diverse and challenging topics.

## Vocational Training Program on SOLIDWORKS Software

A five-day vocational training program on "SolidWorks Software" was organized by the Skill Development and Start-up Cell, CAET, JAU, Junagadh, in collaboration with Khodiyar InfoTech Pvt. Ltd., Ahmedabad from September 2-6, 2024, to enhance the employability potential and competitiveness of undergraduate students. It included several practical, market-demand-oriented lectures, such as an introduction to CAD/CAM/CAE, the SolidWorks user interface and its customization, and basic sketch commands. Total 60 students and 4 faculty members successfully completed the training.



## Sensitization Program on Organ Donation

ASPEE CoA, JAU, Khapat, organized a sensitization program on organ donation in collaboration with the Angdaan Charitable Trust on September 23, 2024. The initiative aimed to raise awareness among students about community engagement and underscored the JAU's commitment to contributing positively to society. Dr. H. R. Vadar, Principal of the college, and Dr. Mayank Javiya, Additional Dean and Professor & Head of the Anatomy Department at GMERS Medical College, Junagadh presided over the event.

## Sensitization Programme on Entrepreneurship Development

An online sensitization programme on 'Entrepreneurship Development in Agriculture' was jointly organized by the CoA, JAU, Junagadh and ICAR-NAARM, Hyderabad on September 17, 2024. A note of appreciation from Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble VC, was read during the inaugural, in which Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director of ICAR-NAARM, Hyderabad delivered the presidential address. In his address, Dr. P. D. Kumawat, Principal and Dean of CoA, JAU, Junagadh, advocated for further collaborations with ICAR-NAARM. Dr. N. A. Vijay Avinashilingam, Principal Scientist, XSM and Additional CEO of a-IDEA, ICAR-NAARM, served as the Programme Director and gave an interactive lecture on 'Fostering an Entrepreneurial Mindset in Education.' The programme also featured an experience-sharing session where Dr. Ragul Paramasivam, Co-Founder and CEO of Chimertech Private Limited, Chennai, inspired participants with insights into his agri-tech startup, dedicated to revolutionizing the dairy industry through innovative solutions. The event benefited over 350 UG and PG students of JAU. The event was coordinated by Dr. B. Swaminathan and Dr. B. H. Tavethiya.

## Orientation programme for freshers

An Orientation Programme for the first semester B.Sc. (Hons.) Agri. students of CoA, JAU, Junagadh and CoA, JAU, Morbi, was held on September 13 and 17, 2024. The inaugural was chaired by Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble VC, in the august presence of Dr. R. B. Madariya, DR; Dr. N. B. Jadav, DEE; Dr. Y. H. Ghelani, Registrar; Dr. R. M. Solanki, DSW; and Dr. P. D. Kumawat, Principal and Dean, CoA, JAU, Junagadh. Dr. V. P. Chovatia remarked that this orientation is special, for it marks the commencement of the inaugural batch of students at the Morbi Agricultural College. Several lectures were delivered, covering all academic, research, and capacity-building

activities of the college, including the activities of the Student Representative Council and Student Counselling and Placement Cell. The importance of RAWE and ELP courses was also highlighted, showing their relevance in fostering employability. The freshers were also given a guided tour, visiting different departments of the college, besides the central library, sports complex, educational museum, and research stations located within the campus.



## Workshop on Job creation through FPOs

The Department of Agricultural Economics, CoA, JAU, Junagadh, organized a one-day workshop entitled 'Towards Viksit Bharat@2047: How FPOs can transition agri-graduates to become job creators?' on September 28, 2024. Altogether, 90 UG and PG students and faculty members participated. The inauguration was presided over by Dr. R. B. Madariya, DR, while Dr. P. D. Kumawat, Principal & Dean, CoA, JAU, Junagadh, and Dr. C. D. Lakhani, Principal, PGIABM, JAU, Junagadh served as the guests of honour. Shri Vishal R. Bhimani, Project Manager, Kashvin Seeds Pvt. Ltd. and CEO, SAMP India, Consortium of FPCL, Ahmedabad, and Shri Bhavesh Khunti, Team Leader (CBBO), Pashupati Cotspin Ltd., Mehsana, were roped in as the expert speakers, who covered many facets of FPO formation and management. The success stories of FPOs from Gujarat and India were also deliberated, along with the government schemes, subsidies, and loans intended for promoting FPOs at the local level. The participants expressed their satisfaction with the content and delivery of the workshop and appreciated its utility in opening up the pathways for job creation. Dr. V. D. Tarpara, Professor and Head of the Department, served as the workshop coordinator, while Dr. B. Swaminathan and Shri C. V. Viraja facilitated the event as its organizing secretaries.





## Guest lecture on International Trade and Agribusiness Scenario

A guest lecture on 'Emerging global economic scenario and its implications for trade and agribusiness in India' was organized by the Department of Agricultural Economics, CoA, JAU, Junagadh, on September 19, 2024. Dr. S. S. Kalamkar, Director, Agro-Economic Research Centre, Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar, served as the resource person and delivered his lecture in person. More than 50 postgraduate students, professor and heads, and other faculty members from the social science discipline, comprising the departments of agricultural economics, extension, statistics, and PGIABM college participated in the event.

## NSS Activities

### 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' Campaign

The NSS units of all colleges and polytechnics of JAU participated in the 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' campaign, inspired by the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's message to promote eco-friendly lifestyles in daily routines. During the tree plantation drive, NSS volunteers planted several saplings of indigenous trees in and around the college premises and farms in the first and second weeks of July 2024.

The KVK, Porbandar, and ASPEE College of Agriculture, Porbandar, also celebrated the "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" campaign with a large-scale tree plantation drive.



### Seminar on Cracking Competitive Exams

The NSS unit of the Polytechnic in Agro Processing, JAU, Junagadh, organized a one-day seminar on "How to Crack Competitive Exams?" on August 3, 2024. A total of 48 NSS volunteers from the polytechnic, along with 82 alumni, attended the event. Ms. Nishaben Markana, Agriculture Officer at the Government Soil Testing Laboratory, GoG, served as the expert speaker, sharing her valuable experiences and providing guidance on exam preparation. Additionally, Mr. Paras Sanghvi and Mr. Tushar Pandya, resource persons from Jay Career Academy, Junagadh, shared practical tips on how to face examinations and guided the students with innovative techniques to boost their competitiveness. Dr. N. K. Dhamsaniya, Principal of

the Polytechnic, presided over the event, while Ms. Geeta Tomar, NSS Programme Officer, concluded the programme with a vote of thanks.

### NSS Special Camp

The NSS unit of the Polytechnic in Agro Processing, JAU, Junagadh, organized a special camp at Choki village, Junagadh district, from September 17-23, 2024, with the participation of 35 NSS volunteers. Throughout the week, various activities were conducted, including cleanliness drives around the 'Sat Gurudham' temple, yoga sessions, physical exercises, a cleanliness rally, and sports and cultural programs. Volunteers also tended to the trees planted in the area, digging furrows and ensuring proper watering. As a part of the camp, Dr. M. N. Dabhi, Professor and Head, Department of Processing and Food Engineering, CAET, JAU, Junagadh, delivered a special lecture on food processing. Dr. N. K. Dhamsaniya, Principal of the polytechnic, provided valuable insights on "Scope and Opportunities in Agribusiness Management." Additionally, a drawing competition centered around NSS activities was organized, bringing out the creative side of the student volunteers. Besides, on September 20, 2024, a Social Awareness Campaign was held under the initiative 'Azadi ka Yuva Sankalp: Shrestha Bharat ke Panch Prkalp', in which Er. Geeta Tomar, the NSS Programme Officer, addressed the volunteers, discussing the socio-economic and cultural conditions of rural life.



### Cleanliness Drive

The NSS Unit of ASPEE CoA, JAU, Khapat, conducted a cleanliness drive under the Swachhta Hi Seva initiative at Chowpati Beach, Porbandar, on September 21, 2024, receiving commendation from local authorities and the general public. The event was part of a nationwide campaign to promote cleanliness and environmental awareness in alignment with the broader objectives of the *Swachh Bharat Abhiyan*.





Similarly, the NSS unit of the Polytechnic in Horticulture, JAU, Junagadh, conducted a cleanliness drive with the theme "Swabhav Swachchhata-Sanskar Swachchhata" on September 23, 2024. During the drive, single-use plastic and other waste items were collected with the participation of 40 students from the bus stand area of Timbavadi village, raising awareness about the importance of cleanliness in our day-to-day lives.



### Har Ghar Tiranga

In the line-up of activities to commemorate the nation's 78<sup>th</sup> Independence Day, the "Har Ghar Tiranga" campaign of the Ministry of Culture, GoI, was observed by the NSS unit of Polytechnic in Horticulture, JAU, Junagadh on August 13, 2024. Dr. K. D. Patel, Principal, in his address, spoke about the need for patriotic fervour for nation-building. Ms. Nayana Savaliya, NSS Programme Officer, invited the students to hoist the tiranga at their homes with pride. The event saw the participation of 60 NSS volunteers and 8 staff from the polytechnic, and it concluded with the hoisting of the national flag on the college building. Similarly, the students of the Polytechnic in Agro-Processing, JAU, Junagadh, participated in the Har Ghar Tiranga Rally on August 14, 2024. The rally was flagged off from Bahuddin College, Junagadh, and concluded at JAU, Junagadh, with enthusiastic participation from students of various schools and colleges across Junagadh.



### Training on "Sustainable Lifestyle Practices"

A one-day training programme on "Sustainable Lifestyle Practices," in line with the Environment Education Programme 2024-25 of the university, was organized on September 21, 2024, jointly by the NSS unit, CAET, JAU, Junagadh and the Gujarat Ecological Education and Research Foundation (GEER), Gandhinagar. As part of the programme, expert lectures on sustainable lifestyle practices, carbon footprint, and rainwater harvesting were delivered by Shri B. N. Patel, Retd. Forest Official, Gujarat Forest Department; Dr. M. S. Dulawat, Prof. &

Head, Dept. of REE, CAET, JAU, Junagadh; and Prof. H. H. Mashru, Dept. of SWCE, CAET, JAU, Junagadh, respectively. Dr. R. M. Solanki, DSW & Programme Coordinator of the university, chaired the inaugural function. The event was coordinated by Dr. P. P. Gajjar, Programme Officer, NSS unit of the college, and Shri Bhavesh Trivedi, Assistant Coordinator, GEER Foundation, Gandhinagar.



### Guest Lecture on Devi Ahilyabai

A guest lecture on "Punyashloka Devi Ahilyabai Jivni Ane Samprat Yuva Shakti" was organized by the NSS unit of CAET, JAU, Junagadh, on September 21, 2024, for the NSS volunteers of the first, third, and fifth semesters of B. Tech. (Agril. Engg.). The guest lecture was delivered by Shri Ashishbhai Kacha, Director, Shri Swaminarayan Gurukul Gyanbaug, Junagadh. The event was coordinated by Prof. D. S. Thanki, Dept. of REE, CAET, JAU, Junagadh.



### Training on Sustainable Use of Plastic

The AICRP on PEASEM, CAET, JAU, Junagadh center organized a one-day farmers' training programme on "Sustainable Use of Plastic for Qualitative Agricultural Production" at Maliya Hatina village, Junagadh district, in association with the Aga Khan Rural Support Programme (India) - AKRSP(I) and RTTC, JAU on August 12, 2024. Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, inaugurated the event. Dr. H. C. Chhodvadia, AEE; Dr. H. D. Rank, Principal and Dean, CAET; Dr. M. S. Dulawat, Prof & Head, REE; and Shri Saransh, Area Manager, AKRSP (I) remained present at this occasion.



Altogether, 65 progressive farmers and farm women actively participated in the training. Scientists of JAU, viz. Dr. G. V. Prajapati, Dr. S. P. Cholera, Dr. P. A. Pandya and Er. M. Ramani delivered their expert lectures. Besides, the technologies developed under AICRP on PEASEM were demonstrated to the farmers.



## Inauguration of KVK Pipalia and KVK Morbi Office-Cum-Laboratory Building

The office and laboratory buildings of KVK Pipalia (Rajkot II) and KVK Morbi were virtually inaugurated by Dr. U. S. Gautam, DDG (Agricultural Extension), ICAR, New Delhi, during the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Zonal Workshop of KVKs from Maharashtra, Gujarat, and Goa (Zone-VIII), held at JAU, Junagadh, from September 4-6, 2024. This inauguration marked a significant milestone for both KVKs in enhancing their infrastructure to better serve the agricultural community. Dr. Gautam had previously visited the KVK building in May 2024, where he interacted with the KVK team, reviewed the center's progress, and discussed ongoing initiatives, providing valuable insights to further strengthen KVK's outreach and activities.



## Dignitaries' Visit

### Dr. Gaurav Mishra

Dr. Gaurav Mishra, Scientist, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, GoI visited Department of Renewable Energy Engineering, CAET, JAU, Junagadh on September 19, 2024. He interacted with faculty members about the ongoing projects and their outcomes and visited various research facilities and laboratories, gaining firsthand insights into the innovative work taking place at the college.

### Dr. S. S. Kalamkar

On the sidelines of organizing the 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual International Conference by the Gujarat Economic Association, Dr. S. S. Kalamkar, Director, Agro-Economic Research Centre, Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar, visited the Department of Agricultural Economics, CoA, JAU, Junagadh, and interacted with the faculty members and PG students about the themes of the conference.

### Dr. R. K. Mathur



Dr. R. K. Mathur, Director of the Indian Institute of Oilseed Research, Hyderabad, and Dr. B. S. Gill, a Soybean Breeder from Punjab Agricultural

University, visited the Agricultural Research Station, JAU Amreli on September 30, 2024, The purpose of their visit was to monitor the ongoing soybean breeding experiments and assess the progress and outcomes of the research activities being conducted at the station.

### Scientists of ICAR, Nagpur

ICAR scientists Dr. Vivek Shah and Dr. R. Jaya Kumarvardhana from ICAR, Nagpur, visited KVK at JAU, Amreli, on August 27, 2024, to evaluate the center's work in the district. They also visited KVK, Targhadia on August 28, 2024. The head of KVK presented a three-year progress report, highlighting various activities including training sessions, guidance on new varieties and technologies, and initiatives like FLDs and OFTs.



## Opening Ceremony of Inter-Collegiate Sports and Cultural Competition 2024-25

The Opening Ceremony of the Inter-Collegiate Sports & Cultural Competition of 2024-25 took place on September 10, 2024, at the Indoor Sports Complex on the JAU Campus, Junagadh, organized by the Office of the Director of Students' Welfare. The event was inaugurated by Dr. R. B. Madariya, Director of Research at JAU. Competitions in Kabaddi (Boys), Kho-Kho (Boys), Badminton, and Table Tennis for both boys and girls were held, drawing enthusiastic participation from 224 students representing various JAU units.



Dr. R. M. Solanki, Director of Students' Welfare, along with his team, played a crucial role in ensuring the smooth and successful conduct of the tournament.





## Aapada Mitra Refresher Taleem

With the inspiration of Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Dr. V. P. Chovatia on August 7, 2024, the programme "Aapada Mitra Refresher Taleem" was jointly organized by DSW Office, JAU and Nodal Office District Disaster Management, Junagadh at DSW Meeting Hall. The refresher training started with the inauguration in the presence of Dr. R.M. Solanki, Director, Students Welfare Office, JAU and Sh. P.M. Kristi, Executive Magistrate, Disaster Management, Junagadh. Total 71 students of different units of JAU were benefitted with the knowledge regarding 'Disaster Management'. Sh. M.B. Vaniya, A.S.I., S.D.R.F. team, Sh. Krutu Trivedi, Project Director, District Emergency Operation Center, Junagadh, Gondal GMRI and Keshod Fire Safety teams and staff were present and delivered lectures, live demonstrations and videos of safety measures and techniques useful during floods, earthquakes, fire bursts and cyclones etc.



## Celebration of Days

### Independence Day Celebrations

Junagadh Agricultural University celebrated the 78<sup>th</sup> Independence Day of India at the JAU Sports Complex in Junagadh on August 15, 2024. The event began with the arrival of the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Dr. V. P. Chovatia, who formally commenced the celebrations by hoisting the national flag. Dr. Chovatia extended his greetings to all university officers, employees, students, and their families, setting a tone of pride and unity.



The program continued with enthusiastic participation from students, staff, and their families, showcasing their patriotic spirit. The event concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Dr. R. M. Solanki, who expressed gratitude to everyone involved in organizing this memorable celebration.

### Teacher's Day

Teacher's Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm across the colleges and polytechnics of JAU on September 5, 2024, honouring the wise words of Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, India's most distinguished President, who preferred to be remembered as a teacher first. Students conducted mock classes to pay tribute to the contributions of their teachers and regaled their peers with classroom experiences, anecdotes, and feedback, reflecting on the significant role of school and college educators in shaping their lives thus far.

In addition to the classroom activities, PGIABM, JAU, Junagadh, also hosted several interactive activities and games for both students and faculty members to commemorate the day.



### National Engineers Day

CAET, JAU, Junagadh, celebrated National Engineers Day on September 15, 2024, to commemorate the birth anniversary of Sir Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya, the legendary engineer whose contributions significantly advanced engineering education in the country. To mark the importance of the day, the Department of Farm Machinery and Power Engineering, CAET, JAU, Junagadh, conducted several activities on the theme "Innovating for a Sustainable Future."



UG and PG students of the college also participated in a digital poster presentation on "Engineering Innovation in Agriculture" and an elocution contest on "AI in Agriculture." Dr. H. D. Rank, Principal; Dr. R. M. Solanki, DSW; and Dr. T. D. Mehta, Professor & Head, were present and extended their best wishes to the future engineers.



## NSS Day celebration

The State Level NSS Day Celebration-2024 was held at Gujarat University, Ahmedabad, from September 22-24, 2024, continuing a cherished annual tradition. Solanki Nikita from ASPEE College of Agriculture, Khapat, participated in Elocution; Vanpariya Vishva M., from the Polytechnic in Agriculture, Sidsar, competed in Essay Writing; Gamit Vivek K., from the College of Agriculture, Junagadh, took part in Rapid Poetry; and Keshwala Krishna, also from the College of Agriculture, Junagadh, participated in One Act Play. Dr. J. R. Talaviya, NSS Programme Officer at the CoA, Junagadh, served as the team manager, supporting the participants throughout the event. Additionally, Dr. Bhawana Asnani represented Junagadh Agricultural University at the NSS Annual Review Meeting-2024, held on September 22, 2024, at Gujarat University, Ahmedabad.



## Anti-Ragging Week

To observe the Anti-Ragging Week declared by the UGC from August 12-18, 2024, the Polytechnic in Horticulture, JAU, Junagadh, hosted an orientation program on Anti-Ragging on August 13, 2024. Dr. K. D. Patel, Principal, briefed students on activities considered ragging, the laws related to ragging, and the impact on the lives of those victimized by ragging. Additionally, an essay writing competition was held on August 14, 2024, focusing on the perils of ragging. A documentary film was shown to the students on the same day, with the participation of 72 students and 4 staff members of the institute

## Farmers' Awareness Programme

The Farmers' Awareness Programme was held on September 17, 2024, at Sanathali Village of Jasdan Taluka, Rajkot district by AICRPDA-JAU-AMFU-Targhadia in collaboration with Santhali Juth Seva Sahkari Mandali and APMC-Jasdan. The program was inaugurated by Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble VC, JAU who highlighted the pivotal role of JAU in advancing the farming community through education, research, and extension activities. Dr. R. B. Madariya, DR, JAU, shared insights on groundnut and other oilseed crops, while Research Scientist Dr. D. S. Hirpara discussed the significance and benefits of an integrated farming system. Dr. P. D. Vekaria, Associate Research Scientist, explained strategies to boost profits through the adoption of a Rainfed Integrated Farming System. Prof. V. D. Vora highlighted the utility of the Agromet

Advisory Service Bulletin (AASB), issued by AMFU-Targhadia and other platforms. Dr. G. V. Marviva, Head of KVK, Targhadia, Rajkot, along with Prof. D. P. Sanepara, shared the diverse initiatives of KVK aimed at empowering farmers. About 2,000 farmers attended, benefiting from the knowledge shared throughout the program.



## Carbon Credit Awareness Program

KVK, JAU, Nana Kandhasar, in collaboration with Grow Indigo and AKRSP Surendranagar, organized an awareness program on Carbon Credit on July 16, 2024, at the KVK campus. Dr. R.P. Kalma (Scientist) explained opportunity to earn carbon credits by storing carbon or reducing greenhouse gas emissions on their land. Shri Ashokbhai Mer (Area Manager, AKRSP Project) advised farmers to adopt organic and natural farming to increase the organic carbon content in the soil. A total of 30 farmers and farm women participated in the program.

## Collaborative Training Programme

A collaborative training program on "HRD Skill Enhancement and Up-Gradation for Peak Performance" and "Digital Transformation in Agriculture: Strategies for Technology Transfer Excellence" was jointly organized by the Extension Education Institute, Anand, and the Directorate of Extension Education, JAU, Junagadh. These trainings were held at JAU during July 15-18, 2024 and July 18-20, 2024 respectively. The training programs covered a multiple topic which were designed to enhance professional skills and performance with the ideas needed to improve their work competencies among extension personals. A total of 119 scientists and officers from KVKs throughout Saurashtra and various departments participated actively in both training programs.





## Parthenium Awareness Week

### Department of Agronomy, CoA, JAU, Junagadh

The 19<sup>th</sup> Parthenium Awareness Week (PAW) was observed by the Department of Agronomy, CoA, JAU, Junagadh, on August 17, 2024, at its Weed Control Research Farm. Faculty members, laborers, and UG/PG students actively participated in the effort to eradicate the weed from the fields and bunds of the farm. On the same day, a workshop entitled “Battling the Invasive: Parthenium Management from Awareness to Action” was also organized by the department under the chairmanship of Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble VC. Several dignitaries, including Dr. R. B. Madariya, DR; Dr. N.B. Jadav, DEE; Dr. Y. H. Ghelani, Registrar; Dr. R. M. Solanki, DSW; Dr. J. B. Patel, Principal & Dean (I/C) of the college; and Dr. P. K. Chovatia, Professor & Head of the Department remained present and discussed the invasive nature of the weed species and its threat to the local food system. Two expert lectures on. “Parthenium Threat: Control & Prevention Tactics” by Dr. B.S. Gohil, and “Preparation of Compost from Parthenium Biomass” by Dr. S. K. Chhodavadia were also delivered, which benefitted 150 participants.



### KVK, Nana Kandhasar

KVK Nana Kandhasar also observed "Parthenium Awareness Week" during August 16-22, 2024, to educate farmers about the harmful effects of the Parthenium weed on human, animal, and environmental health. Dr. J. N. Vyas and KVK scientists demonstrated methods for identifying and controlling the weed, including uprooting, herbicide application, and composting. Lectures were delivered to aware the farmers. Total of 47 farmers and farm women participated in this event.



### KVK, Amreli

On August 16, 2024, KVK at JAU, Amreli, observed the 19th Parthenium Awareness Week by organizing

an event focused on eradicating Parthenium from the campus and surrounding areas. The program included a lecture on the release of Mexican beetles for biological control and the importance of uprooting parthenium. A total of 55 participants took part in the activities, which also included distributing pamphlets to raise awareness about this invasive plant.

## Krushak Swarn Samruddhi Saptah and Technology Week

### KVK, Jamnagar

KVK, JAU, Jamnagar, celebrated the Krushak Swarna Samruddhi Saptah and Technology Week from September 23-27, 2024, aimed at empowering farmers through advanced agricultural practices. The inaugural program, led by Dr. K.P. Baraiya, Head of KVK with Mr. Meghijibhai Chavda, MP who urged farmers to adopt toxin-free farming for healthier communities. Dr. K. D. Mungra from the Bajra Research Center highlighted seed production and the benefits of minor millets. Dr. N. B. Jadav, DEE emphasized on new cotton cultivation techniques and efficient irrigation practices. Throughout the week, a total of 567 farmers and farm women participated in workshops, field visits, and discussions across Jamnagar and Devbhumi Dwarka.



### KVK, Amreli

KVK, Amreli also celebrated the event from September 23-28, 2024, raising awareness among farmers about advanced, location-specific technologies for sustainable agricultural production. A workshop was also organized in collaboration with IFFCO, covering topics like; scientific gram cultivation, balanced nutrition, water and soil conservation, drumstick cultivation, pesticide management in organic farming, and the benefits of vermicomposting. Off-campus training sessions were conducted during the event. Jivamrut was distributed to natural farming practitioners for demonstration purposes. The week concluded with an awareness programs which benefitted 193 farmers and 163 farm women.





### **KVK, Nana Kandhasar**

KVK, JAU, Nana Kandhasar, celebrated Technology Week from September 17-21, 2024, at KVK, Chotila. Dr. H. C. Chhodavadia, ADE, inaugurated the event. The event highlighted the crucial role of farm women in agriculture. Shri Bharatbhai Patel (ATMA Project Director) and Shri Chaturbhai Makwana (AFPRO) discussed the benefits of organic farming. The week featured lectures by KVK scientists, a crop exhibition, and farm tours showcasing seed production and farming technologies. A total of 450 farmers and farm women from Surendranagar district participated.

### **KVK, Morbi**

KVK Morbi celebrated Agriculture Technology Week and Krishak Swarn Samridhhi Week from September 23-27, 2024. The event included training on various topics like; natural farming, liquid and bio fertilizers, pesticide use, nutrient management for rabi crops, and soil health. A total of 577 farmers and farm women participated in the events.



### **KVK, Pipalia**

KVK, Pipalia, in collaboration with AFPRO, celebrated Technology Week from September 23-27, 2024. A total of 280 farmers and farm women actively participate in a five-day program dedicated to raising awareness of new developments in horticulture, home science, plant protection, animal husbandry, women empowerment, crop varieties, types of fertilizers, and other related topics.

### **KVK, Targhadia**

KVK, Targhadia also celebrated the event at different villages of Rajkot district during September 23-27, 2024. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. G. V. Marviya, Senior Scientist & Head, KVK, Rajkot-I and Dr. P. D. Vekariya, Associate Research Scientist, DFRS, Targhadia. On September 27, 2024, Shree Parshottam Rupala, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Rajkot and Ex. MLA, Rajkot (South), Shree Govindbhai Patel remained present in the programme and gave valuable suggestions for the sustainable Agriculture. During this week, total 393 farmers, farm women and 35 officers from different department and NGOs were participated.

### **KVK, Porbandar**

KVK, Porbandar hosted an impactful Krishak Swarn Samridhhi Week and Technology Week during September 23-28, 2024. Attendees experienced live demonstrations and insightful seminars covering every aspect of the agricultural process from land preparation to marketing strategies. A noteworthy event was organized on September 27, 2024, featured esteemed guests, Shri Arjunbhai Modhwadiya, MLA, Porbandar; Shri Babubhai Bokhiriya, Ex-Cabinet Minister, Gujarat; and Dr. N. B. Jadav, DEE, JAU, Junagadh, who have given valuable guidance to the farmers. A total of 282 farmers participated in this event.

### **Poshan Maah Celebration**

Poshan Maah is a nationwide initiative aimed at raising awareness about the importance of nutrition and encouraging healthy dietary practices. During this month, KVK Pipalia organized a series of events focusing on the nutritional benefits of millets and their role in a balanced diet. The program, aimed at promoting millets as a nutritious, sustainable, and eco-friendly food option, saw enthusiastic participation from 86 beneficiaries from various villages in Dhoraji Taluka. These beneficiaries included farmers, adolescent girls, and farm women, all of whom played an important role in spreading awareness about millets and incorporating them into their daily lives. Overall, the program made a significant impact by fostering a deeper understanding of the nutritional and agricultural value of millets, helping local communities adopt healthier and more sustainable dietary practices.

### **Training on Integrated Nutrient Management for Fertilizer Dealers**

Two batches with a total of 109 dealers Completed a fifteen-day certificate course on "Integrated Nutrient Management for Fertilizer Dealers" during July 08-22, 2024 and August 02-16, 2024.

The course was conducted by the office of DEE and the Dept. of Soil Science and Agril. Chemistry at CoA, JAU, Junagadh. Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble VC, distributed the certificates and emphasized on the importance of effective and efficient fertilizer utilization. Dr. R. B. Madariya, DR, acknowledges the valuable contributions of all the dealers for the same. Dr. N. B. Jadav, DEE, encouraged the dealers to utilize the JAU iKrushiSanhita application to enhance their knowledge for the benefit of farmers.





## Bi-Monthly Workshop

The Bi-monthly workshop under the T&V system was held during July 20-21, 2024, organized by the office of DEE at JAU, Junagadh, under the esteemed guidance of Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble VC of JAU. This workshop aimed to disseminate innovative technologies developed by JAU to extension personnel. Dr. N. B. Jadav, DEE, inaugurated the event, emphasizing the crucial role of the participants in connecting farmers with the latest advancements in agriculture.

Shri M. M. Kasundra, Joint Director Agriculture, Junagadh, provided insights into the current initiatives undertaken by the Department of Agriculture to support farmers. The workshop featured a sequence of discussion by various agricultural scientists and experts, each sharing their specialized knowledge. Approximately 40 officers participated in this revelatory event, highlighting its significance in fostering agricultural development.



## Awards and Accolades

### Best Presentation Award

Dr. N. B. Jadav, Director of Extension Education, JAU, Junagadh received Best Presentation Award among all the DEEs of Zone-VIII at the Seventh Annual Zonal Workshop of Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) for Maharashtra, Gujarat, and Goa jointly organized by ICAR- Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute (ATARI), Zone VIII, Pune and Junagadh Agricultural University, Junagadh during September 4-6, 2024.



KVK, Pipalia (Rajkot II) received the "Best Presentation Award" during the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Zonal Workshop of KVKs of Maharashtra, Gujarat, and Goa of Zone-VIII during 4-6 Sept, 2024 organized by JAU,

Junagadh, in association with ICAR-ATARI, Pune. A.J. Bhatt, Senior Scientist & Head received the award.



## Superannuated Faculty/Staff JAU Parivar Wishes All for a Hale and Healthy Second-Innings Ahead

Sr	Employee Name	Designation
<b>July - 2024</b>		
1	Dr. M. F. Acharya	Associate Prof. (VRS)
2	Shri H. R. Meta	Asstt. Prof.
3	Shri R. P. Prajapati	Agril. Asstt.
<b>August - 2024</b>		
4	Shri A. P. Solanki	Agril. Asstt
5	Mrs. Balu G. Dhapa	Farm Labor
6	Mrs. Hiraben B. Vaghela	Farm Labor
<b>September - 2024</b>		
7	Kum. Pushpa	Asstt. Prof (Resign.)
8	Shri B. N. Umat	Executive Engg.
9	Shri D. S. Mithapara	Agri. Sup.
10	Shri J. P. Rathva	Junior Clerk (Resign.)
11	Miss Nilamben D. Sangada	Junior Clerk (Resign.)
12	Shri A. V. Kalashiya	Pump Operator



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