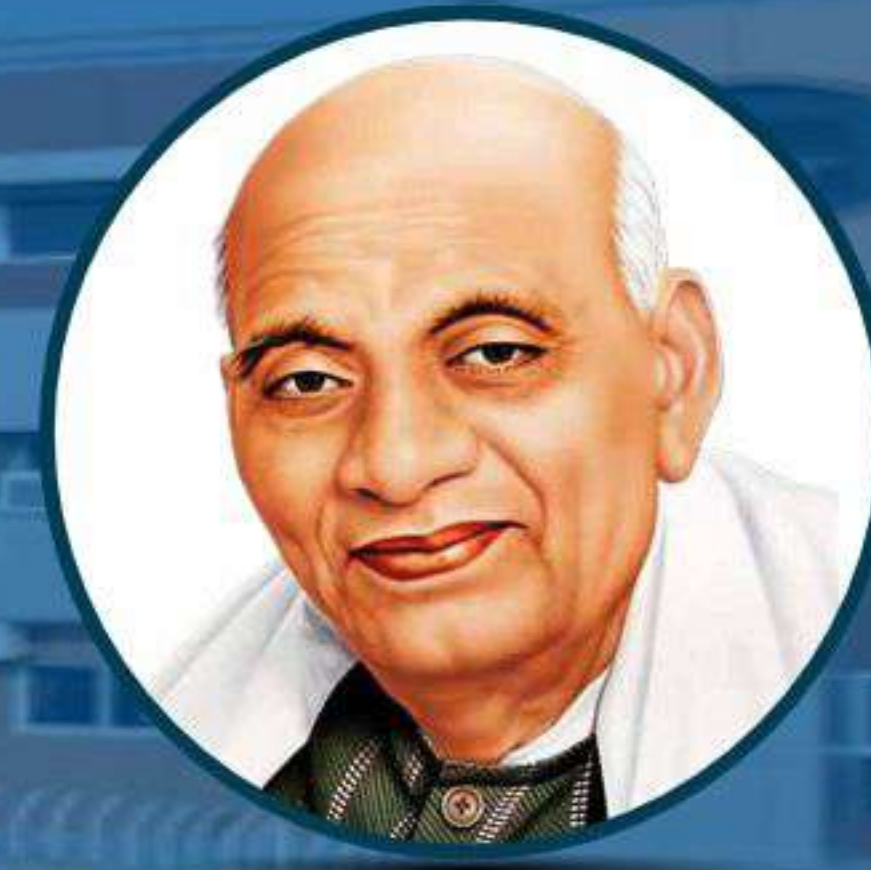




JUNAGADH AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY

Newsletter



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From the Vice Chancellor's Desk

Technology-Driven Agricultural Marketing Solutions for Sustainable Farming

Agricultural marketing plays a crucial role in ensuring that farm products reach consumers efficiently while maximizing farmers' profits. Modern marketing methods for agricultural produce include direct-to-consumer (D2C) sales, online marketplaces, contract farming, cooperative marketing, and retail chains. Farmers' markets, e-commerce platforms, and organic and natural farming stores enable producers to connect directly with consumers, ensuring better pricing and reducing



dependency on intermediaries. Digital platforms and mobile apps have further enhanced accessibility, making transactions smoother and more transparent.

Challenges such as price volatility, middlemen exploitation, inadequate storage, and poor logistics often hinder farmers from obtaining fair prices for their produce. By implementing modern marketing strategies and technology-driven solutions, agricultural marketing can be made more transparent, efficient, and profitable.

Natural farming, which relies on eco-friendly, chemical-free cultivation methods, is gaining popularity due to increasing consumer demand for safe and sustainable food products. These products are free from synthetic fertilizers and pesticides, making them healthier for consumers and the environment. The growing awareness of organic and natural farming products has led to a rise in direct-to-consumer (D2C) marketing, farmers' markets, online marketplaces, and organic retail chains. Certification and labeling play a key role in differentiating natural products from conventional ones, ensuring consumer trust and premium pricing for farmers.

However, the natural farming sector faces challenges such as verification of authenticity, lack of a streamlined supply chain, and trust issues among consumers regarding product purity. This is where blockchain technology can play a transformative role.

Blockchain technology provides a decentralized, transparent, and secure way to track agricultural products from farm to consumer. It enhances trust, reduces fraud, and ensures fair pricing by eliminating intermediaries. With real-time tracking, blockchain prevents mislabeling and guarantees product authenticity. It enables direct sales, ensuring farmers receive fair compensation while smart contracts facilitate secure, automated transactions. Additionally, blockchain minimizes post-harvest losses by improving supply chain efficiency. By storing verified data on farm practices and certifications, it strengthens consumer trust. Integrating blockchain in agricultural marketing can revolutionize the sector, ensuring transparency, fair pricing, and sustainability while empowering farmers and consumers alike.

Moving forward, policymakers and stakeholders must work towards adopting these innovations to create a more resilient and profitable agricultural marketing system.

(V. P. Chovatia)

Kisan Kumbh-2024: Dialogue with Farmers

The "Kisan Kumbh-2024: Dialogue with Farmers" program was held jointly by Junagadh Agricultural University and Phulchhab Daily, chaired by Hon'ble Cabinet Minister Shri Raghavjibhai Patel on December 23, 2024 i.e. Kishan Divsa.



The event focused on topics like Natural Farming, Artificial Intelligence, Drone Technology, Precision Farming, Low-Cost High Production, and Value Addition. Various companies showcased their innovations through stalls. The event was attended by key dignitaries, including Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble VC, JAU, Shri Sanjaybhai Kordiya (MLA), Dr. N. B. Jadav, DEE, JAU and other notable officials. KVK Amreli participated with 10 progressive farmers, including Smt. Taruna Ben Devani, who was honored by the Minister for her work in natural farming. Around 580 farmers from Saurashtra participated actively in the event.

Industry Meet and Showcase of Developed Processing Technologies

The ICAR-AICRP on PHET, Department of Processing and Food Engineering, CAET, JAU, Junagadh, hosted an "Industry Meet and Showcase of

Developed Processing Technologies" on October 16, 2024, with auspicious presence of Dr. N. B. Jadav, DEE, JAU as a Chief Guest.

Total 22 industry professionals, FPOs, and other stakeholders participated in the meet. Dr. M. N. Dabhi, Prof. & Head presented the innovative processing technologies and processing machinery developed by JAU. In addition, Dr. P. R. Davara, Asst. Prof., demonstrated the preparation of high-protein extruded products. Other technologies like continuous microwave dryer, onion storage technology, onion artificial curing technology, and pigeon pea processing technology were also demonstrated. The attendees expressed interest in collaborating with JAU for commercializing the process technologies.



Training on Insecticide Resistance Management and Dissemination of Pink Bollworm

A one-day training program under the Insecticide Resistance Management and Dissemination of Pink Bollworm (NFSM) Project was organized by the Cotton Research Station, JAU, Junagadh on November 27, 2024. The program was inaugurated with the lighting of a lamp by Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Director of Research Dr. R. B. Madariya, Director of Extension Education Dr. N. B. Jadav, and Head of the Centre Dr. M. G. Valu from CRS, JAU, Junagadh. A total of 60 farmers from Bhesan and Vanthli Talukas of Junagadh district actively participated in the training program and input kits were distributed among them. Dr. M. V. Variya, Principal Investigator of the project, provided detailed information on Pink Bollworm (PBW) management. Additionally, lectures on the scientific cultivation of cotton were delivered by cotton scientists Dr. M. G. Valu, Dr. A. M. Polara, and Dr. D. K. Davara.



Registration of Design Patent

The Department of Farm Machinery and Power Engineering, CAET, JAU, Junagadh, registered a design patent for the Pneumatic Left-Over Groundnut Pod Collector, with the design number 423827-001.

AICRP Castor Crop Monitoring

Dr. (Mrs.) M. Santha Laxmi Prasad, Principal Scientist & Co-PI (Plant Pathology), ICAR-Indian Institute of Oilseeds Research, Hyderabad; Dr. T. Manjunatha, Senior Scientist (Plant Breeding), ICAR-IIOR, Hyderabad; and Dr. P. Veeramani, Junior Agronomist, AICRP on Oilseeds (Castor), TNAU, visited the Main Oilseeds Research Station to monitor AICRP experiments on the castor crop.

Dr. R. B. Madariya, Research Scientist (Groundnut), provided a brief overview of the research activities at the Main Oilseeds Research Station.



Scientist of the centre provided information about the experimental trails and its outcomes.

Dry Flower Exhibition

College of Horticulture, JAU, Junagadh, organized a 'Dry Flower Exhibition' on December 21, 2024 under the Experiential Learning Program (ELP) operated at the college. The programme was attended by a large number of UG/PG from all faculties of the university. Innovative items made by the students from dry flowers were put on display. Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, inaugurated the exhibition and congratulated the students for their creative output. Prof. Tejal M. Chaudhari, Asstt. Prof. and Ms. Hiralben Chaudhari, Agril. Officer coordinated the event under the guidance of Dr. D. K. Varu, Principal & Dean of the college. Dr. Y. H. Ghelani, Registrar; Dr. N. B. Jadav, DEE; Dr. P. D. Kumawat, Principal & Dean, CoA, JAU, Junagadh; Dr. K. C. Patel, Director (IT Cell); Dr. G. V. Prajapati, Res. Sci. (Agril. Engg.) and other senior faculty members remained present.



Strengthening partnerships: Successful MOU Completion

Junagadh Agricultural University (JAU), Junagadh, has successfully completed 180 radio talks as per the terms outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed with Gujarat Narmada Valley Fertilizers & Chemicals Limited (GNFC), Gandhinagar. The MoU, signed on December 26, 2023, set a deadline of one year—until December 26, 2024—for the completion of this initiative, and JAU has achieved this milestone within the stipulated timeframe.

Throughout the implementation period, a dedicated team, along with eminent scientists from JAU, ensured that all radio talks were delivered effectively, maintaining both the quality and quantity expectations outlined in the agreement. This achievement marks a significant step in JAU's commitment to knowledge dissemination and agricultural outreach.

Launch of NCC Unit at CoA, JAU, Junagadh

The National Cadet Corps (NCC) plays a vital role in instilling discipline, leadership, and patriotism among youth while preparing them for national service. It fosters physical fitness, teamwork, and social responsibility, contributing to nation-building and community development. The inaugural ceremony of the launch of NCC unit of CoA, JAU, Junagadh, was held on December 14, 2024, under the chairmanship of Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, JAU; and gracious presence of Col. Sreekumaran Pillai, Commanding Officer, 8 Gujarat Battalion NCC, Junagadh, as the chief guest, who extolled the virtues of discipline and sacrifice in his remarks. Dr. V. P. Chovatia appreciated the efforts of the college and DSW in establishing an NCC unit and thanked the Gujarat Battalion NCC, Junagadh, for their support and coordination. Dr. R. B. Madariya, DR; Dr. N. B. Jadav, DEE; Dr. R. M. Solanki, DSW; Dr. P. D. Kumawat, Principal & Dean, remained present along with the university officers, principals of other colleges. The event was also attended by Shri H. B. Patel, NCC Officer, besides professor and heads of various departments and students.



Gujarat State Inter Agricultural University Cultural and Literary Competition

JAU proudly hosted the Gujarat State Inter-Agricultural University Cultural and Literary Competition for 2024-25. The grand opening ceremony took place on October 4, 2024, and was inaugurated by Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor. The event showcased exceptional student talent, with the JAU Mime Team securing the championship title. Additionally, Ujjawal Rajesh Kohli and Aghera Yashvi earned runner-up positions in mono-acting and elocution, respectively. The competition was organized by the Directorate of Students' Welfare, JAU, Junagadh. The event was a success by meticulous planning of Dr. R. M. Solanki, DSW with valuable support from Dr. N. V. Kanani, Physical Instructor, and Mr. P. R. Mathukia, Agriculture Officer.



Blood Donation Camp & Thalassemia Camp

JAU in collaboration with HDFC Bank, Junagadh, organized a Blood Donation Camp. Thalassemia Awareness and Testing Camp was also organized by Directorate of Students' Welfare (DSW). The inaugural ceremony for both camps was held jointly on November 22, 2024, at Kisan Vikas Bhavan, Sardar Smriti Kendra.

The Inaugurator and Chief Guest, Dr. R. B. Madariya, Director of Research inaugurated the event by lighting the lamp in the presence of esteemed dignitaries. Dr. G. K. Gajera, MD (Pathology) and President of Jivan Prakash Voluntary Blood Bank, Junagadh; Mr. Viren Mansata, Cluster Head of HDFC Bank graced the occasion.



During the Blood Donation Camp, 77 units of blood were donated by staff and students, reflecting the commitment to social responsibility. Simultaneously, the Thalassemia Awareness and Testing Camp conducted screenings for first-year students from JAU's on-campus and off-campus colleges and polytechnics which was supported by the Red Cross Society, Ahmedabad. Dr. Gajera delivered an insightful session on thalassemia, emphasizing its causes, prevention and the importance of early testing. Approximately 800 students participated in the camp, benefitting from the awareness and testing program.

Awareness Lecture on "Vaccine for Cervical Cancer"

The Office of the Directorate of Students' Welfare, Junagadh Agricultural University, Junagadh, organized an awareness lecture on the topic "Vaccine for Cervical Cancer" on November 23, 2024, at Seminar Hall, College of Agricultural Engineering and Technology, JAU, Junagadh. The session was delivered by Dr. Jigna C. Faldu, a renowned Gynecologist.

Dr. Faldu conducted an engaging and interactive session, discussing critical aspects of cervical cancer, including its causes, symptoms, prevention, the role of vaccines, and the appropriate conditions for their application. The lecture was structured into three sessions, allowing over 350 participants, including girl students, female university staff, and women family members residing in university quarters, to attend and benefit from the valuable insights shared.



One-Day Seminar on Intellectual Property Rights for Research Students and Faculties

A one-day seminar on 'Intellectual Property Rights for Research Students and Faculties' was organized by CAET, JAU, Junagadh, for PG students and faculty members of JAU on November 21, 2024. Dr. Dhanpat Ram Agarwal, Founding Director at ITAG Business Solutions Ltd., Institute of International Trade, Global IP Convention (GIPC), West Bengal, served as the resource person, who enthralled the participants with his luminary insights. The event was inaugurated by Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble VC, in the august presence

of Dr. R. B. Madariya, DR; Dr. N. B. Jadav, DEE; Dr. R. M. Solanki, DSW; and Dr. H. D. Rank, Principal & Dean, CAET, JAU, Junagadh. The seminar concluded with an engaging Question & Answer session, where students actively participated. More than 400 staff members and PG students attended and benefitted from this insightful program.



Expert Lecture on 'Guidance for Higher Education in Australia'

The Students' Counselling of CAET, JAU, Junagadh, organized an expert lecture on "Guidance for Higher Education in Australia" on the sidelines of MoU signed between JAU and WSU, Australia, on November 30, 2024. The session featured the lectures of Dr. K. C. Patel, Director of IT Cell, JAU, and Prof. G. D. Gohil, Assistant Professor on the Articulation Agreement signed by both partnering institutions towards the pursuance of the dual award and joint higher degree programs of JAU students at WSU, Australia. Dr. H. D. Rank, Principal and Dean, and Prof. G. S. Kharadi, Convener of the Students' Counselling Cell of the college attended the event marked by the participation of other department heads, faculty members and UG/PG students of the college.

Motivational Talk on "Dream, Dare, Do: The Entrepreneur's Journey"

The Students' Counselling Cell of CAET, JAU, Junagadh, organized a motivational talk on "Dream, Dare, Do: The Entrepreneur's Journey" on November 30, 2024. The session was delivered by Mr. Harshadbhai Rupareliya, Managing Director of Rainmark Irrigation Industries, Rajkot, and a proud alumnus of CAET, JAU, Junagadh. Mr. Rupareliya shared his entrepreneurial journey, emphasizing the importance of vision, courage, and action in achieving success. Dr. H. D. Rank, Principal & Dean of the college and Prof. G. S. Kharadi, Convener of the cell attended the event along with other faculty members and UG/PG students.



Selection of Students to Ek Bharat, Shreshth Bharat (EBSB) Special Camp of GoI

As a testimony to JAU's initiatives on all-round development, two students from CoA, JAU, Junagadh, viz., Ms. Parmar Tamna, third semester B. Sc. (Hons.) Agriculture, and Ms. Rakholiya Tanvi Dharmendrabhai, third semester Ph. D. Agriculture, were selected on a competitive basis to participate in the special camp of Yuga Sangam Phase 5 program, an initiative of the Ministry of Culture, GoI, under the aegis of Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat (EBSB). The camp was hosted at IIIT-Kottayam, Kerala, from December 1-5, 2024, and was coordinated by IIT-Gandhinagar. The students represented JAU at various cultural events and contests organized at the camp, showcasing the vibrant culture of the Saurashtra region. Dr. B. Swaminathan coordinated the participation of the students.



Special Lecture on Entrepreneurship Development

A special lecture entitled, 'From Books to the Field: Entrepreneurship Development through Startups in the Agriculture Sector' was organized by the Dept. of Agricultural Economics, CoA, JAU, Junagadh on November 20, 2024. Shri Vanraj S. Bhakharani, Founder & CEO, Krushisarana Agrilclinic Pvt. Ltd., Ahmedabad, was roped in as the resource person. Altogether, 150 UG/PG students of the college participated. The objective of the lecture was to enhance entrepreneurial inclination among the students, enabling them to explore startup opportunities in the agricultural sector.



Gujarat State Inter University Staff Tournament 2024-25

JAU, in collaboration with the Gujarat State University Staff Sports and Cultural Association, Ahmedabad, organized the Gujarat State Inter-University Staff Tournaments 2024-25. The event, held from December 25 to 28, 2024, at the JAU Sports

Complex, comprised five sports: Cricket, Chess, Table Tennis, Badminton, and Volleyball.

Dr. V.P. Chovatia, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of JAU inaugurated the tournament in the elegant presence of Sh. Hitesh Zala, Manager, Sales and Marketing, Tirth Agro Pvt. Ltd. Rajkot; Sh. M.D. Dabhi, Sales Executive, Agricon Nutritech Ltd., Vadodara; Dr. V.R. Patel, President and other members of the Gujarat State University Staff Sports and Cultural Association, Ahmedabad; and university dignitaries Dr. N.B. Jadav, DEE; Dr. R.B. Madariya, DR & Dean PG Studies; Dr. Y.H. Ghelani, Registrar. The competition witnessed enthusiastic participation from over 300 staff members representing 13 universities across Gujarat.

The JAU team delivered commendable performances, securing the Runner-Up position in both Cricket and Badminton events. The tournament concluded with a valedictory function held on December 28, 2024, celebrating the achievements and sportsmanship displayed throughout the event.



JAU Staff Tournament 2024-25

The JAU Staff Tournament was held from December 13 to 15, 2024, featuring five events: Cricket, Chess, Table Tennis, Badminton, and Volleyball. Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Dr. V.P. Chovatia, inaugurated the tournament and highlighted the importance of such events in fostering teamwork and improving the working environment, especially amidst the university's hectic schedule. The team "University Capitals" emerged as champions in both Cricket and Volleyball, with Mr. Vishal Dobariya earning the title of "Man of the Series" in Cricket. Additionally, the individual winners in the remaining events were Mr. Jay Khaniya in Chess, Dr. S. V. Lathiya in Table Tennis, and Mr. P. T. Patel in Badminton. The success of the tournament was attributed to the dedicated efforts of Dr. R. M. Solanki, Director of Students' Welfare; Dr. N. V. Kanani, Physical Instructor; and Mr. P. R. Mathukia, Agriculture Officer, from the DSW



office, who played key roles in organizing and managing the event.

Participation of JAU students in West Zone Sports Competitions

Teams from JAU participated in various West Zone sports tournaments across different locations between October 2024 and January 2025. A 12-member Kabaddi (M) team competed in Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan, followed by a 12-member Volleyball (W) team in Hanumangarh, Rajasthan. A 4-member Badminton (M) team participated in Bhopal, M.P., and a 12-member Basketball (M) team played in Gwalior, M.P. Another 4-member Badminton (W) team competed in Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan. A 12-member Volleyball (M) team took part in Nanded, Maharashtra, while a 4-member Table Tennis (M) team participated in Rewa, M.P. Each team was accompanied by a designated manager and coach appointed by the DSW office.

Celebration of Days

World Cotton Day

World Cotton Day was celebrated on October 7, 2024, at the Cotton Research Station, JAU, Junagadh. Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor inaugurated the event. Dr. R. B. Madaria, Director of Research, JAU graced the event as Chief Guest, while Dr. Y. H. Ghelani, Registrar of JAU remained present as Special Guest. The event commenced with a welcome address by Dr. M. G. Valu, Head of the Cotton Research Station.



Dr. V. P. Chovatia in his presidential address, highlighted the importance of cotton and vital role in both the industrial and agricultural economy. Dr. R. B. Madariya emphasized on selection of appropriate cotton varieties to optimize yields, while Dr. Y. H. Ghelani highlighted the importance of bio-pesticide application for sustainable cotton farming. Additionally, an NGO representative acknowledged the valuable farmer-oriented programs run by the Agricultural University, which have been instrumental in improving productivity and quality.

As part of the celebration, various programs were organized, including a "Flag-Off March" rally. A special one-day interaction program for women farmers was also conducted, featuring expert lectures by scientists from the Cotton Research Station.

International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste

The ICAR-AICRP on PHET, Department of Processing and Food Engineering, CAET, JAU, Junagadh, observed the “International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste” on October 11, 2024. All faculty members along with UG/PG students participated in the event aimed to raise awareness about the significance of food loss and waste. Dr. H. D. Rank, Principal & Dean, Dr. R. M. Solanki, DSW, and Dr. M. N. Dabhi, Prof. & Head of the department remained present.



Agricultural Education Day



Agricultural Education Day 2024 was celebrated on December 3, 2024, at CAET, JAU, Junagadh. An elocution contest on the theme “Agricultural Engineering in the Future and the Future in Agricultural Engineering” was organized for the students.

A total of 240 participants, including Dr. H. D. Rank, Principal and Dean, HoDs, Faculty members and students remained present in the event.

World Soil Day

CAET, JAU, Junagadh

World Soil Day was celebrated on December 05, 2024 by the ICAR-AICRP on Irrigation Water Management, CAET, JAU, Junagadh, with the participation of 250 students along with faculty members and technical staff of the college. Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble VC; Dr. R. B. Madariya, DR; Dr. N. B. Jadav, DEE; and Dr. H. D. Rank, Principal & Dean, graced the occasion as dignitaries and dwelled on the importance of soil conservation for agricultural sustenance. The event also saw the participation of students in various contests such as quiz, elocution, and digital poster presentation.



CoA, JAU, Junagadh

The day was also celebrated at the Dept. of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry, CoA, JAU, Junagadh, with the gracious presence of Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble VC; Dr. N. B. Jadav, DEE; and Dr. P. D. Kumawat, Principal and Dean, CoA. JAU, Junagadh. The theme of World Soil Day-2024: 'Caring for Soils: Measure, Monitor, Manage,' reverberated throughout the event, with the dignitaries interacting with the faculty members and students of the college on the institutional soil conservation initiatives.



KVK Amreli

KVK Amreli celebrated World Soil Day on December 5, 2024 at Varasada village, focusing on the importance of healthy soil and sustainable soil management. Different lectures like; saline soil remediation, soil and water analysis, and the benefits of natural farming for soil health was delivered by the scientists of the University during this occasion. A total of 67 farmers participated in the program.

KVK Jamnagar

KVK Jamnagar organized an off-campus training on "Importance of Soil and Water Testing" to mark World Soil Health Day in Dwarka Taluka, District Devbhumi Dwarka. A total of 69 farmers actively participated. Dr. K.P. Baraiya, Senior Scientist and Head of KVK Jamnagar, addressed topics such as soil health management, soil reclamation, natural farming, vermicomposting, bio-fertilizers, and improving soil fertility using natural resources.

KVK Targhadia

KVK Targhadia also celebrated the event with a total of 30 farmers and farm women. Dr. G. V. Marviya, Senior Scientist and Head of KVK



Targhadia, along with the team of KVK scientists, provided information to farmers about soil health, the Soil Health Card, and methods to improve soil fertility and preserve soil biodiversity to maintain the soil carbon status. With the increased use of chemical fertilizers, it is now essential to add organic material to improve soil health.

Celebration of "Kisan Diwas"

The National Farmers' Day, or Kisan Diwas, is celebrated on December 23 annually in India to commemorate the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Chaudhary Charan Singh.

KVK Nana Kandhasar



KVK, JAU, Nana Kandhasar, celebrated "Kisan Diwas 2024" on December 23, 2025. Dr. B. C. Bochlya highlighted the importance of the day and discussed the harmful effects of excessive chemical use in farming, urging the adoption of natural farming practices. Sri A.K. Vala explained the concept of natural farming and organic formulations like Jeevamrit and Panchgavya. A total of 88 farm women participated in the event.

KVK Targhadia

The event at KVK, Targhadia (Rajkot-I), was attended by 28 rural youth and farmers. KVK staff provided

valuable insights on various topics, including innovations in agriculture, natural and organic farming, and the adoption



of recent technologies for sustainable agriculture. Farmers also shared their perspectives on these subjects during the discussion

CAET, JAU

CAET, JAU, Junagadh celebrated National Farmers' Day (Kisan Divas) on December 21, 2024, on the theme: Modern Agricultural Practices, Sustainability, and the Challenges Farmers Face, featuring two essay and elocution students for UG/PG students of the college. The event was attended by 115 students, besides faculty members and technical staff.

Mahila Kisan Diwas

KVK Amreli marked the celebration of the day by organizing a training program on value addition of agricultural products for 45 women farmers in Khadadhar village, Khambha Taluka, Amreli District. The theme for this year's celebration was "Path of Cooperation, Door to Prosperity."

Rabi-Krishi Mahotsav 2024

The Rabi-Krishi Mahotsav was held across more than 246 talukas in the state on December 6-7, 2024. ctively participated in the mega event, contributing their expertise to promote advanced agricultural practices, sustainable farming techniques, and innovative technologies among farmers.

KVK Porbandar

From KVK, Porbandar, Dr. H.R. Vadar, D.N. Hadiya, and A.M. Gamit, presented enlightening talks on the significance of natural farming in Bhanvad and Jamkhambhaliya. Over the two days, the event involved 2,096 farmers and farmwomen. The mela served as a valuable opportunity for farmers to explore sustainable farming practices and engage with industry experts.

KVK Amreli

KVK Amreli scientists delivered lectures on key subjects such as natural farming, pest control in rabi crops, millet value addition, new horticultural technologies to reduce



cultivation costs, production of ethanol from agricultural crops, and the importance of natural farming. The event saw enthusiastic participation, with a total of 4,768 farmers and farm women from the Amreli and Bhavnagar districts.

KVK Jamnagar

KVK Jamnagar also organized a stall with a focus on raising awareness about millets. The stall featured millet samples, charts of rabi crop cultivation



practices, and an exhibition promoting natural farming.

KVK Nana Kandhasar

KVK scientists shared information on modern farming techniques and improved technologies. Various departmental stalls showcased modern machinery, hybrid seeds, and improved varieties of fruits and vegetables. A total of 3,146 farmers and farm women from Surendranagar district attended the event.



Training on Greenhouse/ Net House

The Office of DEE, JAU, Junagadh, organized a residential training program on Green/Net House Farming from November 11-20, 2024. Dr. N. B. Jadav, DEE, JAU, Junagadh inaugurated the program, emphasizing the need for advancing agricultural practices. Dr. H. C. Chhodavadia, ADEE, welcomed the participants, and Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, stressed the importance of the course and encouraged trainees to use the JAU iKrushi Sanhita app for up-to-date knowledge. Dr. D. K. Varu, Principal & Dean, CoH, JAU, Junagadh highlighted the significance of protected cultivation. The training included theoretical sessions, hands-on training, and field visits. The program concluded with 39 participants attaining training programme completion certificates.



C. Chhodvadia, ADE, JAU, Junagadh also graced the occasion with their presence.



During the ceremony, Dr. V. P. Chovatia, encouraged the 44 trainees and highlighting the importance of the bakery course. Dr. N. B. Jadav further emphasized the benefits of the course.

"Shri 1! Centenary Festival-2024 at Sri Umiyadham, Sidsar"

"Shri 1! Centenary Festival-2024" has been organized from 25 to 29 December, 2024 at Sri Umiyadham, Sidsar. The Junagadh Agricultural University exhibited high yielding varieties of different crops, new technologies and improved practices of agriculture, horticulture and agricultural engineering with advisory on seven stalls of JAU. Throughout the festival, more than 3 lakh farmers, farm women and other stakeholders visited the University stalls and got information on the latest technology in agriculture and allied subjects.



Rabi Pre - Seasonal Workshop

The Directorate of Extension Education, JAU, Junagadh, organized the Rabi Pre-Seasonal Workshop under the T & V system on November 19-20, 2024. The workshop was held under the guidance of Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble VC, JAU, with the primary objective of introducing new technologies and innovations developed by JAU to extension personnel. Dr. N. B. Jadav, DEE, JAU, Junagadh, inaugurated the workshop and emphasized the crucial role of participants in helping farmers access the latest innovations. Shri S. M. Gadhesariya, Deputy Director of Agriculture, Junagadh, presented an overview of the activities being undertaken by the Department of Agriculture in the current context. Various agricultural scientists and experts delivered talks on their areas of expertise. A total of 28 officers participated in the workshop.



Activities of Sardar Smruti Kendra

The Directorate of Extension Education, SSK, JAU, Junagadh organized five on-campus and 3 off-campus training programs for 325 participants in collaboration with various institutions from different districts. These programs included participants from institutes such as Nardesh Narmada Nagar - Bharuch, AKRSP(I) - Manavadar, Sayla, Maliya Hatina, and the ATMA project in Tapi. During the quarter exposure visit and personal contact under the guidance of Dr. N. B. Jadav, DEE, JAU, a total of 1866 farmers, farm women and students from different districts visited SSK and Krushi Darshnalay.



Bakery Training Courses

School of Baking organized fifteen weeks and one-week training course for women during the quarter. A total of 234 women participated actively in different durations of bakery training programme. The program featured distinguished guests, including Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Smt. Heenaben V. Chovatia, President, Krushi Parivar Mahila Mandal, JAU, Dr. N. B. Jadav, DEE JAU Junagadh, and Dr. H.

Activities on Natural Farming

KVK Morbi



A one day event was organized on Natural farming by KVK of Morbi in collaboration with the ATMA Morbi on November 30, 2024. The event was graced by the presence of dignitaries, including Sh. Kantilal Amrutiya, MLA of Morbi, Prof. M.F. Bhoraniya, Senior Scientist and Head of the KVK, shared valuable knowledge on the topic of natural farming. The event was well-attended by a large group of 650 farmers from across the Morbi district.

KVK Pipalia

KVK, Pipalia, JAU in collaboration with ATMA Project Rajkot, organized a seminar on natural farming on December 30, 2024. The event saw the active participation of 650 farmers and women farmers, who gained valuable insights into the benefits of natural farming. The seminar was honored by the distinguished presence of Dr S.K. Roy, Director of ATARI Pune and Dr. N.B. Jadav, DEE, JAU Junagadh.



Bakery Training Courses

Agrisnet Studio

Dr. P. D. Palsana, IAS, Joint Secretary of the Agriculture Department (Agriculture University), Gandhinagar, visited the AGRISNET Studio, JAU on November 16, 2024, along with Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble VC, and Dr. R. B. Madariya, DR, JAU, Junagadh. He expressed deep appreciation for the exceptional work being done by the team in leveraging technology to support farmers. He commended the innovative approach of the AGRISNET platform, which utilizes radio and digital media to disseminate crucial agricultural knowledge to rural communities. The Joint Secretary highlighted the importance of such initiatives in bridging the knowledge gap, enhancing

agricultural practices, and empowering farmers with real-time information. He also congratulated the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor for his remarkable efforts in enhancing the outreach and impact of AGRISNET, which is playing a key role in transforming the agricultural landscape.



KVK Amreli

On December 16, 2024, Dr. A. K. Tripathi, Former Director of ATARI, Guwahati, visited KVK Amreli to review its extension work. He toured the KVK farm and provided valuable suggestions for improvement. Dr. Tripathi also visited the farm of a progressive farmer in Khabha district, who practices natural farming and produces value-added products. On December 30, 2024, Dr. S. K. Roy, Hon'ble Director of ATARI, Pune, along with Dr. N. B. Jadav, DEE, visited KVK Amreli. Senior Scientist & Head, Dr. P. J. Prajapati, briefed them on the progress of various schemes and projects. Dr. Roy appreciated KVK Amreli's activities and offered suggestions for further improvement.



KVK Pipalia

On December 30, 2024, Dr. N. B. Jadav, DEE, JAU, Junagadh, along with Dr. S. K. Roy, Director of ATARI Pune, and Dr. H. C. Chhodavadia, ADEE, JAU Junagadh, visited KVK Pipalia. During their visit, they provided valuable insights and suggestions to further develop and strengthen the center's activities.



Demonstration of Drone

As a pioneering effort in technology advocacy, the Department of Farm Machinery and Power Engineering, CAET, JAU, Junagadh in collaboration with various KVKs of JAU, organized drone demonstrations at different villages under the “Sub Mission on Agricultural Mechanization for Implementation of its Components Under Drone Technology Demonstration”. During the quarter from October to December 2024, a total 82 of Drone demonstration were organized, covering 105 acres and benefitting 3490 farmers.



Awards and Accolades

Best Centre Award 2024 to AICRP on PEASEM



The AICRP on Plastic Engineering in Agriculture Structure and Environment Management (PEASEM), Department of REE, CAET, JAU, Junagadh, was conferred with the Best Centre Award 2024 at the XX Annual Workshop of AICRP on PEASEM, held at SKUAST-K, Srinagar, during October 14-16, 2024.



Awarded on a competitive basis among 14 centres in India with rigorous evaluation criteria, Dr. G. V. Prajapati, Research Engineer of AICRP on PEASEM Junagadh Centre received the award from the gracious hands of Dr. K. Narsaiah, ADG (Agril Engg) and Dr.

Rakesh Sharda, Project Coordinator, AICRP on PEASEM Scheme.

Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble VC; Dr. R. B. Madariya, DR; and Dr. N. B. Jadav, DEE. Dr. H. D. Rank, Principal and Dean CAET, JAU, Junagadh, and Dr. M. S. Dulawat, Prof. & Head, Dept. of REE, applauded the initiatives of Dr. G. V. Prajapati, Dr. S. P. Cholera and their team for this stupendous achievement.

Best Extension Scientist Award



Dr. B. N. Kalsariya, Professor & Head, Dept. of Agril. Extension Education, CoA, JAU, Junagadh, was bestowed with the “Best Extension Scientist Award” for his outstanding contributions to scientific agricultural education, research, extension, and innovations. The award was conferred at the SEEG National Seminar on “Agricultural Extension for Viksit Bharat: Innovations and Strategies for Sustainable Development,” organized by the Society of Extension Education, Gujarat, in collaboration with NAU, Navsari, during December 27-28, 2024.

Women Scientist Award

In the same event, Dr. Pinki S. Sharma, Assistant Extension Educationist and Station In-charge, AGRISNET Studio, JAU Junagadh, was felicitated with the “Late Champaben Vallabhbhai Mayani Best Woman Scientist Award,” which is a prestigious recognition given to women researchers making outstanding contributions to scientific research and innovation.



In the same event, several faculty members, besides master's and doctoral scholars of the Dept. of Agril. Extn. Edu., CoA, JAU, Junagadh, received awards for their oral and poster presentations, bringing laurels to the university.

Young Scientist & Young Agronomist Awards

Dr. B. S. Gohil, Asst. Prof., Dept. of Agronomy, CoA, JAU, Junagadh, received “Young Agronomist Award” at the 2nd International Agriculture Conference on “Natural Farming Innovations: Enhancing Soil Health & Seed Quality with AI and Drones for a Greener Agricultural Future” held at Hansraj College, University of Delhi, from November 03-05, 2024.

Dr. B. S. Gohil was conferred the country's most-prestigious “ISWS Young Weed Scientist Award” at the ISWS Biennial Conference on “Climate-smart Weed Management for Global Food Security” held at BHU, Varanasi, from Nov. 28-30, 2024, which was organized jointly by the Indian Society of Weed Science (ISWS), ICAR-Directorate of Weed Research, and BHU, Varanasi.



Selection of Students in RBI Quiz



The team of Ms. Dodiya Drashti and Mr. Dodiya Rohan, third semester students from CoA, JAU, Junagadh, were selected for the state-level round in the RBI@90 National Quiz on a competitive basis out of 850 contesting teams from Gujarat and UTs. The RBI Regional Office, Ahmedabad, organized the state-level round on November 19, 2024, at, Ahmedabad, to commemorate the 90 years of completion of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). At the state-level rounds, the students cleared the first round with ease and bowed out of the final round for the state-level selection by a whisker. Dr. B. Swaminathan coordinated the participation of students as a team manager.

JAU Students Bag SHODH Scholarships

Adding further fillip to the research prowess of JAU, as many as 25 doctoral scholars from the faculties of agriculture, horticulture, agricultural engineering and agri-business management were awarded the Scheme Of Developing High quality research (SHODH) scholarships by the Knowledge Consortium of Gujarat, Dept. of Education, GoG, for the academic year 2023-24. In the evaluation process that was meticulous to the core, the research proposals submitted by the students received high marks cutting across the disciplines as evidenced by the merit list released by the consortium in December 2024. Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, and Dr. R. B. Madariya, DR and Dean PG Studies congratulated the students and their major guides for this stupendous achievement.

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

Sr	Employee Name	Designation
October - 2024		
1	Dr. Mamtakumari	Asst. Professor*
2	Shri M.Z.Meniya	Agri. Supervisor
3	Shri J.J.Tank	Gardener
4	Shri B.L.Keshwala	Lab Boy
November - 2024		
5	Pro. H. J. Vyas	Asso. Professor (D)
6	Shri R.D.Garchar	Farm Labor
December - 2024		
7	Shri G.V. Sakariya	Agri. Assistant*



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