



KAU NEWS

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Sardar Patel Award Endowment Gold Medals Presented



Shri.R.L.Bhatia, His Excellency the Governor of Kerala and Chancellor of KAU presenting the gold medals and certificates to the outstanding students of KAU

Though Kerala is endowed with favourable climate and environment, the agricultural production of the state could not achieve the desired target, said Sri.R.L.Bhatia, H.E.the Governor of Kerala and Chancellor of KAU. The Governor was presenting the gold medals to the outstanding students of KAU for their academic excellence in the undergraduate programmes of the university, in a glittering function held at the Central Auditorium of the University at Vellanikkara on Dec. 9, 2005. The Chancellor exhorted the teaching community to shoulder greater responsibilities to discharge their obligation to the new generation of students.

The gold medals have been presented from 2005 onwards from the interest accumulated out of a corpus of 5 lakhs awarded to the university by ICAR being the recipient of the Sardar Patel Award 2003.

KAU was selected for the Sardar Patel Award for being the best ICAR institution for education, research and extension for the year 2003 .

Following students received the gold medals:
K.Malini, Dhanya Purushothaman - BVSc.&AH
U.Manjush, K.Prabha - B.Sc. (Ag)
L.Manjusha, S.Prasanth - B.F.Sc.
Shailesh Kumar Singh, M.Vineetha, Maanjush Mathew - B.Tech. (Agrl. Engg.)
S.L.Vibin - B.Sc (Forestry)
V.N.Vijitha - B.Sc (C& B)
Mary Janeena D'silva - B.Sc (Dairy Sci. & Tech.)

Dr. K.V.Peter, Vice Chancellor presided over the function. Dr. N.Sundaresan Nair, Dean, Faculty of Agri., Dr. D.D.Nambudiri, Dean, Faculty of Fisheries, Dr. E.Nanu, Faculty of Vety. & Animal Sciences and Prof. C.P.Muhammed, Dean, Faculty of Agri. Engg. & Tech. offered felicitation. Dr.M.Achuthan Nair, Director, Acad & PG Studies welcomed the gathering. Shri.O.P.Kaler, Registrar proposed vote of thanks.



National Honour

Dr. K.V. Peter, Vice Chancellor receiving the award from Sri. Sarad Pawar, Union Minister for Agriculture for having secured third position among the Agricultural Universities in India in academic excellence, as reflected in the All India Examination 2005 in agriculture and allied subjects, conducted by ICAR.

Project for Seed Production in Crops and Fisheries

A Project for Seed Production in agricultural crops and fisheries will be implemented in the Kerala Agricultural University (KAU) at an estimated cost of Rs.4.47 crores. The project is fully funded by ICAR and will be co-ordinated by the Directorate of Seed Research, Mau, UP. The project is implemented nationally in 85 ICAR institutes and Central-State Agricultural Universities at a cost of Rs.198.9 crores.

The project targets on the production of quality seed/ fish seed and planting materials and to enhance the spread of high yielding new varieties/hybrids. The project will focus on the production of breeder seed and to some extent of foundation seed and truthfully labelled seeds of field crops, horticultural crops and fisheries. In KAU the project is being implemented in the Regional Agricultural Research Stations at Ambalavayal, Pilicode, Pattambi and Kumarakom, Main Campus, Vellanikkara and College of Fisheries, Panangad.

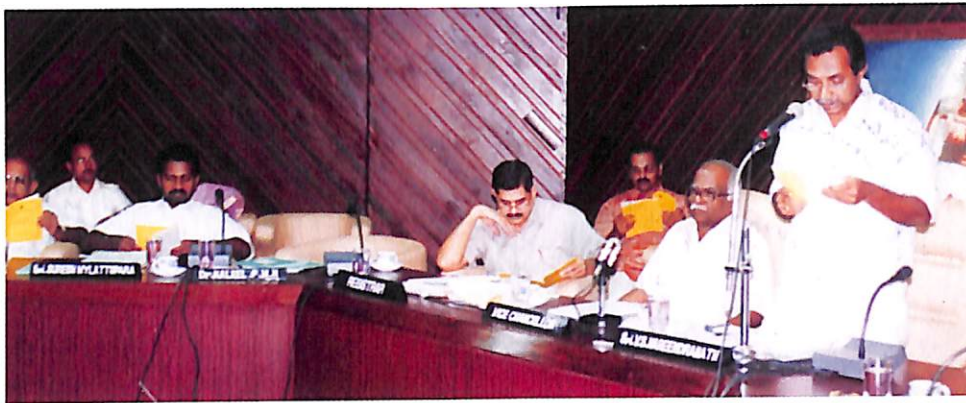
Gramasree: Coloured Bird for Backyard Poultry



Gramasree, a poultry strain developed by the Centre for Advanced Studies in Poultry Science, College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Mannuthy is ideal for rural poultry. The birds are sturdy with medium body size and multicoloured plumage and patterns. The birds gain a body weight of 1.5 kg. at 20 weeks and lay first egg at 175 days. They lay attractive brown eggs. Average egg production is 180 and egg size 50g. Gramasree is suitable for foraging and scavenging. Smt. K. R. Gouri Amma, Minister for Agriculture and Coir released the new strain of poultry on Feb. 23, 2006

KAU Budget 2006-'07

Innovative Projects in Education, Research and Extension



Adv. V.S.Hareendranath, Member of Executive Committee presenting the KAU budget.

The ninety fifth meeting of the General Council held on Mar. 18, 2006 at Thiruvananthapuram approved the budget proposals of the University for the fiscal 2006-07, which anticipated an income of Rs.142.37 crores and expenditure of Rs.155.38 crores. Adv.V.S.Hareendranath, Member of the Executive Committee presented the budget, which proposed a number of projects in education, research and extension.

New Courses Proposed

- ◆ M.V.Sc in Biochemistry and Ph.D Programmes in Veterinary Public Health, Veterinary Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine in the College of Vety. & Animal Sciences, Mannuthy.
- ◆ MBA in Sea Food Trade at the College of Fisheries, Panangad.
- ◆ MBA in Agri. Business Management at the College of Co-operation, Banking & Management, Vellanikkara.
- ◆ M.Sc in Wood Science at the College of Forestry, Vellanikkara

Major Research and Extension Projects

- ◆ AAA Farming (Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Aquaculture) at RARS, Kumarakom and RRS, Vyttila drawing inspiration from the Kerala Development proposals of the President of India, Dr. A.P.J Abdul Kalam,
- ◆ Centre for Organic Farming
- ◆ Centre for Plant Protection
- ◆ Distance education courses for farmers and general public with the assistance of IGNOU.
- ◆ Establishment of a seed research centre at College of Forestry
- ◆ Eco tourism project at Vellayani and Mannuthy.
- ◆ Institution of an award for the best

agricultural scientist.

- ◆ Organisation of an Indian Agricultural Science Congress during 2006-07 at KAU
- ◆ International Agricultural Education Meet
- ◆ Market Intelligence and Forecasting Centre at Vellanikkara
- ◆ International Hostel at Vellanikkara Campus
- ◆ Institution of an award for the best farmer
- ◆ Bio-control experimentation laboratory control diseases in cardamom, ginger, turmeric and spices
- ◆ Setting up a residue laboratory at College of Agriculture, Vellayani
- ◆ Facilities for research in Bio physics at College of Vet. & Animal Sciences, Pookot
- ◆ Starting of Projects for Processing of milk, bone and leather
- ◆ E-governance for strengthening administration.

'Unheard Voices' and 'One Question'

The Centre for Studies on Gender Concerns in Agriculture, KAU has developed two documentary films depicting the gender issues in agriculture and interventions needed in the development of Kerala. The CDs entitled "Unheard Voices" and "One Question" were released by Dr.K.V.Peter, Vice Chancellor on Nov. 17, 2005. The films were developed as gender sensitization resource materials for the capacity building programmes with support of ICAR. The documentary films pinpoint the changes of outlook and mind set that are inevitable among all the stakeholders of agricultural development. Gender perspectives needed in the context of institutions of agricultural education, research, extension and farmer support institutions are interwoven in the films in a fiction mode.

Veterinary College Golden Jubilee

South zone inter university foot ball tournament 2005-06 was organized on the sidelines of the Golden Jubilee of the Mannuthy Vety. College on Nov.21, 2005. Adv. Therambil Ramakrishnan, Speaker, Kerala Legislative Assembly was the guest of honour in the opening ceremony.



Sri. T.K.A. Nair inaugurates the Golden Jubilee Lecture Series

The Jubilee Lecture series was inaugurated by Sri. T.K.A. Nair, Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister of India. Dr. David Bebb (UK), Dr. M.T. Jose (Dubai), Dr. K.K. Prakash (UK), Dr. K. Venugopal Nair (UK), Dr. Krishna Menon (USA), Dr. Mohamed Shafi (Dubai), Dr. Kumara Subramanian (UK) and Dr. Samuel K. Chacko (USA) were other learned speakers who interacted with the students and faculty of the College.

A horse show was organized on Dec. 2, 2005 in association with the 1(K)R&V Sqn. NCC, Mannuthy.



Dr. Jancy James inaugurates the National Assembly of Lady Veterinarians.

National Assembly of Lady Veterinarians was organized on Jan. 4-5, 2006, which was inaugurated by Dr. Jancy James, Vice Chancellor, Mahatma Gandhi University. The first lady veterinarian of India, Dr. Sakkubai Ramachandran participated.

State level seminar for the poultry farmers was organized on Jan. 6. Sri. P.P. George MLA switched on the feed mill for producing poultry feed.

Golden Jubilee Finale Fest



Sri. Vayalar Ravi, Union Minister inaugurates the valedictory festival of the golden Jubilee

The valedictory festival of the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the College of Vety. & Animal Sciences, Mannuthy, the *Suvarnotsavam*, was organized from Feb. 12-25, 2006, to mark the culmination of the year long jubilee activities. On Feb. 12, Sri. Vayalar Ravi, Union Minister for Overseas Indian Affairs, inaugurated the festival. Sri. C. K. Chandrappan, MP, Sri. P.P. George, MLA and Sri. C.R. Das, Councillor, Thrissur Corporation participated.

Sri. Subratha Biswas, Secretary for Animal Husbandry, Govt. of Kerala inaugurated a National Seminar on Veterinary Education, Research and Development in Animal Husbandry Sector on Feb.17. Sri. P.M.A.



Sri. Subratha Biswas inaugurating the National Seminar on Veterinary Education

Hakkim, Secretary for Animal Husbandry, Govt. of India, Dr. B. Eqbal, former Vice-Chancellor, Kerala University, Dr. B. Ashok, Director, Dept. of Animal Husbandry, Kerala, Dr. M. Krishnan Nair, former Dean, Faculty of

Sri. A. Sethumadhavan (Sethu) inaugurates the Alumni Day



Vety. and Animal Sciences, Dr. E. Nanu, Dean, Faculty of Vety. and Animal Sciences, Dr. N. N. Sasi, Registrar, Kerala State Veterinary Council, Dr. K.G. Suma, President, Kerala State Veterinary Council, Dr. Jose Joseph, Member, Executive Committee, KAU and many other experts in the field participated.

On Feb. 19 Alumni day was inaugurated by the novelist Sri. A. Sethumadhavan (Sethu).

One day cattle show was organized on Feb. 20, and was inaugurated by Sri. K. Sreekumar, President, District Panchayath, Thrissur. This was paralleled by a Farmers Seminar inaugurated by Sri. P.P. Balan, Director, KILA, Thrissur. Sri. R. L. Bhatia, H.E. Governor of Kerala and Chancellor of the KAU inaugurated



Sri. R.L. Bhatia, addressing on the Merrit Evening

the Merit Evening organized to honour the most respected alumni of the College, who have excelled in their career and brought laurels to the institution. Sri. R.L. Bhatia distributed the awards and released the Jubilee publication, *Research Index Covas*.

The Campus day and Parent Teacher Association meet were formally inaugurated by Dr. P.V. Krishnan Nair, Secretary, Kerala Sahitya Academy, Thrissur on Feb. 21.



Sri. P.V. Krishnan Nair honouring an eldest retired labourer

Athletic meet was conducted on Feb. 22. Sri. E.J. Jacob, Former Director, Physical Education, Veterinary College and University of Calicut and Sri. M.C. Varghese, Veteran international athlete attended the meet.



Pets get ready for the show

A pet show was organized on 23, which was followed by a *Souhruda sandhya*, the citizens' meet, in the afternoon. Sri. M.K. Suryaprakash, the Deputy Mayor of Thrissur inaugurated the meet. Mr. Jayaraj Warriar, caricature artist and Sri. Shogun Raju, film producer participated.

Smt. K. R. Gouri Amma, Minister for Agriculture and Coir released a new strain of poultry, *Grama Sree*, developed by the Centre for Advanced Studies in Poultry Sciences, College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, a leaf let explaining the qualities of the new variety, and a handbook of poultry production, on Feb. 23 evening.



Smt. K.R. Gouri Amma releasing the Leaflet on Gramasree

International Seminar on Production of Safe and Quality Meat and Meat Products was held on Feb. 24. Dr. V. Venugopal, Director, Radio Chemistry and Isotope Group, BARC, inaugurated the session. In the evening The Jubilee Year Students' Union was inaugurated by Sri. D. Vinayachandran, Poet.

Dr. V. Venugopal inaugurates the International Seminar on Production of Safe and Quality Meat and Meat Products





Adv. Therambil Ramakrishnan, Speaker addresses during the closing ceremony

The closing ceremony was opened by Adv. Therambil Ramakrishnan, Speaker of the Kerala Legislative Assembly. Smt. R. Bindu, the Mayor of Thrissur presided and released the Jubilee Souvenir. Dr. R Shanmugha Sundaram, Former Vice Chancellor of the Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences



Smt. R. Bindhu, Mayor, Thrissur delivering presidential address

University was the Chief Guest and released the special issue of the Journal of Veterinary and Animal Sciences. Sri. P. P. George, MLA presented the *Priya karshakan* award to Sri. Manoharan, Gokulam Products, Thazhekkad, Thrissur for the most successful animal farmer who adopted the technical recommendations of the KAU.

An exhibition highlighting the contributions and achievements of the college over 50 years was kept open on all days and was attracting people from different walks of life.

High over barriers



College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Mannuthy crosses 50 yrs.

The College was established in August, 1955 as the Government Veterinary College, Mannuthy, with a mandate to train veterinary professionals to meet the requirement of the State. Later, in 1961, the College also took up the responsibility of undertaking problem oriented research work, and got renamed as the Kerala Veterinary College and Research Institute. In 1972 it became a part of the Kerala Agricultural University and started to be known as the College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Mannuthy. Since then the college is involved in teaching, research and extension activities in the animal husbandry sector.

In the beginning, the college had only undergraduate programme of education and 10 departments. Now, there are 20 statutory departments, of which 18 offer Master's programme and 14 Doctoral research. The undergraduate programme, B.V.Sc & AH course is of five-year duration and regulated by the Veterinary Council of India Act. Apart from this, the institution is also engaged in training officers, military men, farmers, ladies and unemployed youth. The graduates of this institution extend their service not only to the animal husbandry sector of the state, but also to the army, civil service, banks, insurance and in various institutions abroad

The College has a library with more than 16,000 books, 6000 back volumes of Journals, and 650 research theses. Out side the curriculum the students are trained in NCC, NSS and Earn While You Learn activities. In the past years, the College has undertaken a number of research projects with the financial assistance of ICAR, DBT, NABARD, DST, CSIR etc. The findings on Ethmoid Carcinoma, Aflatoxicoses, Duck Plague, Ranikhet Disease, Reproductive physio-pathology, Nutritional interventions, Unconventional feed ingredients and feeding practices etc. have brought national and international recognition. The contributions like, Athulya, Gramalakshmy and Gramasree strains of poultry, genetic conservation attempts like those on Vechur cows, native pigs, Kuttanad ducks, Kuttanad buffaloes, Malabari and Attappadi goats were also significant. The studies on Asian elephants attracted global attention.

The College has two referral hospitals, one of which has completed 100 years of exemplary service. The Centers of Excellence in Pathology and Meat Science, the Centers for Advanced Studies in Animal Breeding and Genetics and



Poultry Science are four leading projects for focused research. The Departments like Surgery, Medicine, Reproduction, Microbiology, Pharmacology, Parasitology and Nutrition are referral centers for the State. Animal farms maintaining cattle, buffaloes, goats, pigs, rabbits, small animals and poultry and duck are available in the campus.

Two major processing plants, one for milk and another for meat, are also working attached to the College. Two research stations, one at Thumboormuzhi of Thrissur district and another at Thiruvazhamkundu of Palakkad district also add to the strength of the institution.

NSS Special Camp



Ten days special camp of the College of Vety. & Animal Sciences, Mannuthy was organized at Kottopadam Panchayath from Feb. 4-13. The Special camp coincided with the Golden Jubilee Year of the College. The motto of the camp was 'Youth and Community Development'. The camp activities included awareness campaign, leadership development, socio cultural programmes in selected tribal colonies of the panchayath, disaster management training, nature camp etc. The camp was inaugurated by Sri. Kalathil Abdulla, MLA. About 150 NSS students participated.

Security concerns drains national income

We would have been able to alleviate poverty to a large extent if the Government could divert a portion of the amount it spends on maintaining security, said Shri.T.K.A.Nair, Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister. Shri.Nair was talking on the theme 'India-Today and Tomorrow' after inaugurating a lecture series and merit fete organized as a part of the golden jubilee celebration of the College of Veterinary & Animal Sciences. While advances were made in technology on one side, the security concerns raised by its misuse have made the security environment difficult, he observed. In a globalized scenario such unfavourable security concerns have a deleterious impact on development. In today's world, there is considerable scope to reduce security related concerns and channelise funds for the uplift of the marginalized section, the Principal Secretary said.



Sri. T.K.A. Nair receiving memento from Dr. K.V. Peter, Vice Chancellor

Govt.- Private tie up

Underscoring the importance of Govt- Private partnership, he stated that such tie up is vital for the healthy economy of the country. The Government has to play significant role in the globalized regime. Though it does have to play many of the traditional functions "the Government cannot just vanish. There can be changes in its roles from being an actual performer. It will have to work as a facilitator, umpire and regulator". In the context of globalization, the resource crunch will force the Government to withdraw many of its traditional functions "We can no more perceive the Government as sole agency to solve all our problems. On the other hand, the Government would have to take care to ensure that the available resources reached the lower strata in society. While globalization has brought in several positive developments in the society, there is increasing recognition that it has also marginalized large sections of society" Sri.Nair cautioned.

Gamma Chamber 5000

The Meat Technology Unit of the Department of Livestock Products Technology received an aid of Rs.39.5 lakhs from the Board of Research in Nuclear Science-Baba Atomic Research Centre for conducting meat irradiation studies at KAU. A Gamma Chamber 5000 was installed in the department and limited market trials were conducted utilizing meat and meat products irradiated at dose 2.0-2.5 kGy. It was found that beef irradiated at 2.5 kGy had an extended shelf life of 25-30 days in chiller storage against 3-5 days under conventional method. Similarly other meat and meat products like turkey, chicken, beef cutlet, minced beef and beef fry were also had extended shelf life under chiller storage.



Dr. V. Venugopal, Director, Radio Chemistry and Isotope Group, BARC inaugurating Gamma Chamber 5000

It was also observed that irradiated product was organoleptically and physiochemically indistinguishable from that of non-irradiated samples.

National Workshop on Oilseeds

The KAU hosted the VI Annual Workshop on Sesame & Niger Research Workers, 2006 of the ICAR during April 18-20, 2006. The National workshop was organized by the All India Co-ordinated Research Project on Sesame & Niger (ICAR) and Onattukara Regional Agricultural Research Station (ORARS), Kayamkulam at Amritha Viswa Vidyapeetham, Amrithapuri, Clappana, Kollam District. The Inaugural function was presided over by Dr. O.P. Dubey, Assistant Director General (OP), ICAR, New Delhi, Dr. K.V. Peter, Vice Chancellor, KAU inaugurated the national workshop. Dr.D.Alexander, Director of Research, KAU welcomed the gathering. Dr. Sverup John, Project Director, ORARS



proposed vote of thanks. Dr. S.S. Duhoon, Project Co-ordinator, ICAR, JNAU, Jabalpur and Dr. K.B.M. Namboothiripad, Dean, Amritha Vidyapeetham also spoke on the occasion.

Central Library

KAU Central Library provides advanced library and information services. All members of KAU have free literature search facility; regular membership is provided to the staff & students; persons outside KAU are served on payment; the total regular membership has been increased by 35%. The library has 19,050 books, 8,500 reports, 2,470 thesis, 7,500 volumes of journals and 900 CD-ROMs. All important databases on agricultural & veterinary sciences are made available.



KAU Pavilion

Sri. I.K. Subramonian Master, Member, Gen. Council inaugurating the KAU Pavilion at Thrissur Pooram Exhibition 2006. Also seen are Dr. K.V. Peter, Vice - Chancellor, Dr. M.K. Sheela, Director of Extn., Dr. E. Nanu, Dean, College of Vety. and Animal Sciences and Dr. Binu P. Bony, Convener of the Exhibition.



National Workshop held at College of Fisheries



Sri. Dominic Presentation, Minister for Fisheries is having a conversation with the Director of Fisheries and the scientists of KAU

The National Workshop on 'Quality Improvement of the Fisheries Sector through Professionals' was inaugurated on

Nov. 24, 2005 by Sri Dominic Presentation, Minister for Fisheries & Sports, Govt. of Kerala in a function presided over by Sri. G. Harikumar, Director of Fisheries, Govt. of Kerala. The Minister also inaugurated the Referral Biodiversity Museum on freshwater prawns, the first of its kind in the country. The Referral Biodiversity Museum on freshwater prawn houses 45 species of the 65 freshwater prawns reported from the country. Sixty species of Inland fishes that are cohabiting with the prawns are also displayed in the museum. Dr. M.K. Prasad former Pro-vice Chancellor, University of Calicut, Dr. M.K. Sheela, Director of Extension, K A U, Dr. D.D. Nambudiri, Dean, College of Fisheries and Dr. K.V. Jayachandran, Associate Professor, Dr. B. Manojkumar and Sri. Anoop Thomas, Secretary, Students Union also spoke.

Group Meeting of AICRP on Cashew

Cashew Research Station, Madakkathara organized the National Group Meeting of Scientists of All India Coordinated Research Project on Cashew from Nov. 28-30, 2005 at Vellanikkara, Thrissur. Seventy five delegates including scientists of the National Research Centre for Cashew, Puttur and from eight State Agricultural Universities, representatives of DCCD, Kochi, CEPCI, Kochi, State Depts. of Agriculture, Plantation Corporations, Processing industry, Exporters and Planters have attended. The three-day programme was organized under different sessions dealing with crop improvement, crop management, crop protection and research & development.



Dr. K.V. Ramana inaugurating the scientist's meet

Dr. K.V. Ramana, Assistant Director General (PC), ICAR formally inaugurated the Group Meeting on Nov. 28 at the College of Forestry. Dr. P.V. Balachandran, Associate Director of Research, RARS, Pattambi welcomed the gathering. Dr. M.G. Bhat, Director, NRC for Cashew and Project Co-ordinator, AICRP on Cashew presented the Project Co-ordinator's report. Dr. D. Alexander, Director of Research, K A U presided over the inaugural session and indicated the vast possibilities for value addition of cashew kernels and utilization of cashew apples. Dr. M.K. Sheela, Director of Extension, Dr. Luckins C. Babu, Associate Dean, College of Forestry and Dr. G.S.L.H.V. Prasada Rao, Associate Dean, College of Horticulture offered felicitations. Dr. Jose Mathew, Associate Professor & Head, CRS Madakkathara, and General Convener of the Group Meeting proposed the vote of thanks.

Dr.V.Ganesan, Assoc. Prof. & Head, Dept. of Agri. Engg., College of Agri., Vellayani attended and presented a research paper on "Decision Support System Crop -9 DSS for Identified Crops" in the 10th International Conference on Computer Science. during Mar. 29-31, 2006 at Vienna.



Need for Strengthening Domestic Market for Fishery Products



Sri. Mohan Kumar delivering the Devidas Endowment Lecture

Sri.G.Mohankumar, Chairman, MPEDA stressed the need for developing a strong domestic market for sea food products in order to meet the fluctuations in the international market. There are several hurdles for the exporters from developing countries for meeting quality stipulated for the international market. These hurdles include trade issues, environmental issues and quality problems. Sri.Mohankumar was delivering the Devidas Menon Endowment Lecture at the College of Fisheries, Panangad. He dealt with problems in the coming years for the developing countries in the international sea food trade. In 2020 sea food trade will be dominated by the developing countries. The share of aquaculture in seafood export trade will rise to 41%. However, at present the share of value added products in our export is mere 5%. Trade policies like anti dumping duty have affected India's export in this sector. There is need for greater transparency in quality requirements and safety management system

approach. There is a heavy cost for complying with the quality requirements of developed countries, which out seafood processing plants find difficult to shoulder. The US bio terrorism Act has also added to this. Dr.N.R.Menon, former Director, School of Marine Sciences distributed RKSDJ Trust Endowment and Fish Processing Best Student Awards to L.Manjusha, S. Prasanth and V.R.Devi. Dr. D.D. Nambudiri, Dean, College of Fisheries presided over the function. Sri.T.R.Menon offered felicitations. Dr.K.K.Varma proposed vote of thanks.

Best Paper Awards

The research paper entitled "Studies on production and storage potential of Synthetic Seeds in Cocoa (*Theobroma Cacao L*)" by K.Sudhakara, B.N.Nagarajon, A.V. Santhosh Kumar, K.K. Sunil Kumar and N.K. Vijayakumar, College of Forestry, published in the Seed Research Vol. 28 (2): 119-125, 2000 was adjudged as the best paper by the Indian Society of Seed Technology, New Delhi.

Dr. K.P. Prasanna, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Olericulture has bagged the 'Best Research Article Award' in the poster session of research paper entitled "Evaluation of ash gourd (*Benincosa hispida* Thunb) for yield and yield attributes" during the National Seminar on "Appropriate Technologies for sustainable Horticulture" held at Annamalai University.

National Nematology Biennial Meet of AICRP



Sri. Mathew C. Kunnumkal inaugurating the Meet

KAU hosted the National Biennial Scientists' Meet of AICRP on Plant Parasitic Nematodes with Integrated Approach for their Control during Nov. 7-9, 2005. The meeting was organized by All India Coordinated Research Project (ICAR) and College of Agriculture, Vellayani. The function was presided over by Dr. K.V. Peter, Vice Chancellor,

ICAR Winter School

The I.C.A.R sponsored winter school on 'Trade oriented Exploitation of Horticulture in Humid Tropics-Opportunities and Challenges' was organized by the Dept. of Olericulture, College of Agriculture, Vellayani, from Dec.1-21, 2005. Dr. S. Edison, Director, Central Tuber Crops Research Institute, Thiruvananthapuram inaugurated the winter school. Dr. D. Alexander, Director of Research, K A U welcomed the gathering. Dr. C. Sundaresan Nair, Dean, Faculty of Agriculture presided over. Dr. C.P.R. Nair, Joint Director, CPCRI, Kayamkulam and Dr. J. Arthur Jacob, Associate Director of Research, NARP (Southern Region) offered felicitation. Dr. L. Rajamony, Associate Director of Research (Plg.) was the Course Director and Dr. M. Abdul Wahab was the Course Coordinator. Fifty sessions were arranged in all the categories of horticultural sciences viz., plantations, spices, medicinal and aromatic plants, fruits, vegetables, floriculture, landscaping and post harvest technology. On the 20th day of the winter school, a panel discussion was arranged on the topic "Horticulture for trade and livelihood security in the humid tropics". Mr. Joseph S. Paynadath, General Manager, NABARD (Kerala Circle) was the moderator for the discussion. Dr. G.M. Nair, Professor & Head, Dept. of Botany, University of Kerala and the Former Director, TBGRI, Palode was the Chief Guest in the closing ceremony. Dr. C. Sundaresan Nair, Dean Faculty of Agriculture presided over the function.

KAU. Sri. Mathew C. Kunnumkal, Agricultural Production Commissioner, Govt. of Kerala inaugurated the meeting. He released two books entitled "Nematode Pests of Crops in Kerala - An Overview" and "Nimavirakal - Keralathile Vilakalil". The first copies of the same were received by Dr. K.V. Ramana, Assistant Director General (Spices and Plantation Crops) and Dr. T.P. Rajendran, Assistant Director General (Plant Protection) respectively. Dr. T.P. Rajendran presented the background of the project and Dr. R.K. Jain, (Project Coordinator, Nematodes) explained the research highlights of the project. The participants included scientists from 14 centres of AICRP. Dr. C. Sundaresan Nair, Dean, College of Agri., Vellayani, Sri. P.S. Sasi, Director of Agriculture attended the meeting. During the technical sessions the research achievements of all the centers were presented, discussed and recommendations were formulated. The technical programme for 2005-07 were also discussed and approved.

SYNDFEST - 2005

The Agronomic Research Station, Chalakudy participated in the "Synd Fest, 2005", an agricultural exhibition organized by the Syndicate Bank, Mattathoor Br. from Nov. 25-27, 2005 at Kodali in connection with the celebration of 50th Anniversary of the Bank and 20th Anniversary of the Farm Club of the branch. Agricultural seminar and farmer-scientist interaction session were also arranged.

G.C Members' Visit

The Members of the General Council of KAU visited the institutions of the University in the Central Region. Sri. Suresh Mylattupara, Sri. I.K. Subramonian Master, Smt. Alice Joseph, Dr. Joy Mathew, Sri. R. Vijayan, Sri. P. Sreejith, Sri. T. Surendran Papanchani and Sri. M.S. Pushpakumar participated in the visit held on Feb. 19, 20 and 21, 2006. They visited Colleges and Research Stations in the Mannuthy- Vellanikkara Campus, Banana Research Station, Kannara, Rice Research Station, Vytilla, Fisheries College, Panangad and Fisheries Research Station, Puduveypu.

At the ATIC, Mannuthy



Golden Jubilee of CSRC Karamana



The Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the Cropping Systems Research Centre, (CSRC) Karamana was inaugurated on Dec. 14, 2005 by Smt. K.R. Gouri Amma, Minister for Agriculture and Coir. The function was presided over by Sri. C. Jayan Babu, Mayor of Thiruvananthapuram Corporation, Dr. D. Alexander, Director of Research, KAU delivered the introductory speech. Sri. Mathew C. Kunnumkal, Agriculture Production Commissioner released the bio control agent against nematodes. Sri. P. P. George, MLA inaugurated the Agricultural Exhibition and Sales counter and Sri. C. Jayan Babu released the Souvenir. Adv. V.S. Hareendranth, Dr. Jose Joseph, Dr. F.M.H. Khaleel, Sri. Suresh Mylattupara, Adv. Cheriyan Kavanal, the members of the Executive Committee of KAU were present.

ICAR course on Development Journalism & Media Management

ICAR short course on Development Journalism and Media Management was held at the Dept. of Agricultural Extn., College of Agri., Vellayani from Jan. 16-25, 2006. Twenty six participants from various parts of the country representing states Jammu & Kashmir, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu and Scientisis from SAU's Central Institutions and KVKs attended the national course. The programme was inaugurated by Sri. Mathew C. Kunnumkal, Agricultural Production Commissioner, Govt. of Kerala on Jan. 16. The valedictory session was presided over by Dr. S. Edison, Director, CTCRI, Thiruvananthapuram.

M.Sc in Dietetics and Food Service Management

Academic Council of KAU, has given approval for opening a study centre of the IGNOU in the Dept. of Home Science, College of Agriculture, Vellayani. This centre will offer M.Sc in Dietetics and Food Service Management of two year duration.

National Integration Camp



The Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs, Govt. of India organized a National Integration Camp for the volunteers of National Service Scheme at Marathwada Agricultural University, Parbhani from Dec. 19-25, 2005. From all over India, 21 universities participated in the camp. The KAU contingent was headed by Dr.C.George Thomas, NSS Programme Officer of College of Horti. The students who attended the camp from the College of Horticulture, Forestry, Co-operation and Banking and Vety. & Animal Sciences were K.V.Ayoob, Arun Babu, Nishalakshmi, Priyanka Choudhary, K.S. Karthika,, V.C.Rahul, M. Sreedevi, K.S. Deepa., Pravin Joseph, and Biju Prasad. The camp was a great opportunity to the students to interact and share the knowledge of the rich culture and tradition of India.

NSS Special Camp in Kasaragod District



A ten-day Special Camp was conducted in the Birikkulam Village of Kinnannoor Karindalam Panchayath of Kasaragod Dt. from Mar. 21-30, 2006 under the auspices of NSS Unit of the College of Agriculture, Padannakkad. The theme of the camp was "Youth for Sustainable Development". Ms. Jasmine, Panchayath President, Kinnannoor Karindalam Grama Panchayath, inaugurated the function. Dr. I. Johnkutty, Associate Dean, College of Agriculture, Padannakkad addressed the gathering. The volunteers undertook various activities.

Village Adoption



The National Service Scheme of the KAU selected Kurumbilavu Village of the Chazhooor Grama Panchayath of Thrissur district as part of the Village Adoption Programme. The NSS Units of the College of Horti., Vellanikkara, College of Vety. & Animal Sciences, Mannuthy, College of Co-op., Banking & Management and the College of Forestry, Vellanikara jointly conducted the Programme which aimed at the transfer of innovative technologies developed by KAU to the rural masses and to enable the students to face challenges of the real field situations. Sri. K.P.Rajendran, MLA inaugurated the programme on Jan.12, 2006.

Youth Parliament

The group level competition of the KAU team in connection with the Eighth National Youth Parliament Competition for the year 2005-06 was held at the College of Horticulture, Vellanikkara. The team consisting of 50 students were given orientation and rehearsal on Feb. 17 and 18. The final presentation was made on Feb. 18. Dr.M.Padmanabhan, Bhartiya University, Zonal Co-ordinator of the competition attended. Dr.U.Ramachandran, Assoc. Dean, College of Co-operation, Banking & Management, Vellanikkara was the Co-ordinator of the Programme. Sri. C.S. Gangadharan, Ex. MLA and Dr. E.Rajan, former Principal, Sree Kerala Varma College evaluated the presentation. They commented the debating abilities and in depth knowledge of the students in the current social, economic and political problems of our country. Ten students, five each from the Treasury Bench and opposition were given prizes.

Sri. Gangadharan former MLA distributing prizes.



Recognition

Dr. P.K. RAJEEVAN, Head, Dept. of Pomology & Floriculture, College of Horti. has been nominated as a Member of the Research Advisory Committee in respect of the National Research Centre for Orchids, Pakyong (Sikkim)



Ms. RAJINA VASUDEVAN, RA, Communication Centre, Mannuthy, recipient of the Gold Medal from the UAS,Bangalore for having secured MSc(Ag.) Agri. Economics with the highest OGPA of 9.40 out of 10 during 2005.



Ms.V. KOUSALYA, student, Dept. of Oleri., College of Hort., Vellanikkara secured the Best Research Article Award for the research paper in the National Seminar on Appropriate Technologies for Sustainable Horticulture held on Mar. 20-21, 2006 at Annamalai University.



MASTER PRASANTH NANDAKUMAR of KAU HS participated in the National Jemboree held at Haridwar during Oct. 2005. He also participated in the South Asian Federation Scout Camp during Feb. 2006.



MASTER AKHIL MOHAN of KAU High School participated in the 32rd Jawaharlal National Science Exhibition for children held at Raipur during November 2005.



Kum.Tinu Sadan, Stephy.M and O.S Aswathy students of the KAU HS participated in the South India Science Fair held at Pondicherry and won Awards in individual category (Mathematics) and group category (Science) with Science teacher, U.Najeema and Mathematics teacher T.J. Maggy.

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