

NATIONAL FARMERS DAY
(23RD DECEMBER, 2021)

Celebration

On

12th March, 2022

The Department of Agriculture, IAST celebrated National Farmers day on Saturday 12th March 2022. The National Farmers Day is celebrated every year on 23rd December to commemorate the birth anniversary of former Prime minister, Shri Chaudhary Charan Singh, however this year it was delayed because of Covid pandemic.

Prof. Syed Waseem Akhtar, Hon'ble Chancellor & Founder, Integral University, Lucknow, **Prof. Panjab Singh**, Hon'ble Chancellor, Rani Lakshmi Bai Central Agricultural University, Jhansi, **Prof. Javed Musarrat**, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Integral University, Lucknow, **Dr. R.K. Mittal**, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel University of Agriculture and Technology, Meerut, **Dr. Narendra Singh Rathore** Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture & Technology, Udaipur, **Prof. Nazir Ahmed Ganai**, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Sher-e Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences & Technology of Kashmir, Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir, **Dr. Sanjay Singh**, Director General, Uttar Pradesh Council of Agricultural Research, (UPCAR), Lucknow, **Shri Vivek Kumar Singh**, Director, Directorate of Agriculture, Govt. of U.P, **Prof. Mohd. Haris Siddiqui**, Director, IAST and Registrar, Integral University graced this occasion.

The guests were welcomed by presenting the *Salvia*, *Geranium* and *Pogostemon* plants in eco-friendly clay pots. The event began with the introduction of the Department and the journey till date by Prof. Mohd. Haris Siddiqui, Director, IAST. He underlined the significance and the role of IAST towards educating the young minds in the field of agriculture and its achievements from its inception. Prof. Javed Musarrat, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Integral University, Lucknow welcomed the guest and audience. He discussed the role of Agriculture Universities in improving agriculture and enhancing the rural economy.

On this occasion, Dr. Vivek Kumar Singh, Director, Directorate of Agriculture, Govt. of U.P. pointed towards the need of assessing and acknowledging the role of farmers in the social development of the nation. Prof. Nazir Ahmed Ganai, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Sher-e Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences & Technology of Kashmir, Srinagar, emphasized that we should realign our research priorities with farmers' production constraints and livelihood opportunities. Dr. Sanjay Singh, Director General, Uttar Pradesh Council of Agricultural Research, (UPCAR), Lucknow, accentuated the significance of soil testing laboratory and seed certification center. Dr. Narendra Singh Rathore, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture & Technology, Udaipur and Dr. R. K. Mittal, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel University of Agriculture and Technology, Meerut virtually joined and enlightened the audience. Prof. Panjab Singh Hon'ble

Chancellor, Rani Lakshmi Bai Central Agricultural University, Jhansi, highlighted more on doubling the farmers income. He encouraged the students to get acquainted with the latest technologies so that agriculture can be taken to the next level. Prof. Syed Waseem Akhtar, Hon'ble Chancellor & Founder, Integral University, Lucknow, referred to the problems faced by the farmers and how these challenges can be overcome.

The MoU was signed between Uttar Pradesh Council of Agricultural Research (UPCAR) and Integral University with the intention to explore, extend and strengthen the functional relationship between the two institutions.

During the program, the progressive farmers, Shri Ali Imran Jaferi, Shri Devendra Kumar, Shri Mukesh Kumar, Shri Ashok Kumar, Shri Udhav Singh, Shri Ajay Kumar and Shri Ghulam Mohommad were honored and felicitated for their contribution towards the betterment of agriculture. They were awarded for their distinguished Innovation and contribution to enhance the agriculture economy through organic farming, Integrated Farming System, Chickpea Production, mushroom cultivation, Seed Production of Paddy and Wheat, Jaivik Kheti, Banana Cultivation, Poultry Farming and bee keeping, respectively. The Institute also honored the Krishi Vigyan Kendras for their role in dissemination of knowledge and support to the farmers.

IIAST also organized Farmers Day exhibition where KVK Sitapur-II, KVK Kaushambi, KVK IISR and the ICAR and CSIR institutes, viz, Indian Institute of Sugarcane Research, Central Institute of Subtropical Horticulture, Central Integrated Pest Management Centre, Biotech Park, Central Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants, National Botanical Research Institute, Central Drug Research Institute, Directorate of Agriculture, CSSRI Regional Research Station, Lucknow and IIAST displayed their products and technologies.

This was followed by the inauguration of Integral Krishi Vigyan Kendra (IKVK) and Integrated Farming System unit by the Hon'ble guest. This program was attended by the students as well as the farmers from the nearby villagers.

The vote of thanks was proposed by Dr. Saba Siddiqui, HOD, IIAST, Integral University.



