

Integral Institute of Agricultural Science & Technology (IIAST) Integral University, Lucknow

Brief Report on Visit of Undergraduate Students of Department of Agriculture, IIAST, to the Regional Meteorological Center, Amausi Airport, Lucknow on World Meteorological Day

World Meteorological Day is an annual event celebrated on March 23rd to commemorate the establishment of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) in 1950. World Meteorological Day highlights the significance of meteorology in understanding and predicting weather patterns, its impact on various aspects of society including agriculture, transportation, and disaster management as well as the theme chosen for the year's celebration by the WMO i.e "At the Frontline of Climate Action: Sustainable Development". It also highlights the key initiatives, events, or campaigns organized globally to raise awareness about meteorology and its importance in addressing climate change challenges.

The Department of Agriculture, IIAST has an Automatic Weather Station (AWS) established within a university campus which serves as a valuable resource for students across various disciplines. AWS is equipped with sensors that continuously monitor and collect meteorological data such as temperature, humidity, wind speed, and precipitation. By providing real-time and accurate weather information, AWS offer students the opportunity to engage in hands-on learning experiences, utilize the weather data to study weather patterns, analyze climate trends, and develop forecasting models. Additionally, students from the fields such as Agriculture, Environmental science, and Engineering draw benefit by accessing weather data for their projects and experiments. Students and nearby farmers can also record daily real time weather data from the display screen which is located near the gate no.1 of Integral University. The presence of an AWS within the university not only enhances the educational experience but also fosters a deeper understanding of the complexities of weather and its impact on various aspects of life and the environment. In accordance with this, to enhance the learning experience of students, the Department of Agriculture, IIAST has organized a visit to the Regional Meteorological Center at Amausi Airport, Lucknow, B.Sc. (Hons) Agriculture IInd Year and B.Tech. Agricultural Engineering students to celebrate the World Meteorological Day on March 23, 2024. The visit was observed under the guidance of Prof. (Dr.) Mohd Haris Siddiqui, Dean, Faculty of Agricultural Science and Technology and Prof. Saba Siddiqui, Head, Department of Agriculture.



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The students were cordially greeted by Dr. Atul Kumar Singh, Scientist D and Head, Agro meteorology' Indian Meteorology Department, Lucknow fostering a welcoming atmosphere for their educational experience. He guided students through various sections, providing insights into the cutting-edge technologies and methodologies employed in weather forecasting and analysis. The Interactive sessions and presentations elucidated the significance of meteorological data interpretation in formulating strategies to mitigate the adverse effects of climate change on agriculture. Discussions on climate variability, extreme weather events, and their implications for food security left a profound impact on the students, highlighting the pressing need for sustainable agricultural practices in the face of evolving climatic patterns. The students witnessed the functioning of weather monitoring instruments and learned about the importance of accurate weather predictions in agricultural planning and management under the guidance of faculty coordinators Dr. Nitish Kumar, and Dr. Uday Veer Singh along with supporting staff Mr. Suraj Awasthi and Mr. Dheer Pratap Singh and Dr. Atul Kumar Singh, Scientist D and Head, Agro meteorology' Indian Meteorology Department, Lucknow and his team. The visit was attended by 75 students.

The visit concluded with a sense of appreciation and gratitude among the students, who departed with a deeper understanding of the symbiotic relationship between meteorology and agriculture. Armed with newfound knowledge and insights, they returned to IIAST inspired to integrate meteorological principles into their academic pursuits and future endeavors in the field of agriculture. The visit not only broadened their horizons but also reinforced the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration in addressing the challenges posed by a changing climate to ensure global food security and agricultural sustainability. They were particularly intrigued by the sophisticated equipment utilized to gather data on temperature, humidity, rainfall, and atmospheric pressure, all of which are crucial factors influencing crop growth and yield.

GLIMPSES OF THE VISIT-



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