



IDP-NAHEP Pantnagar Updates

G. B. Pant University of Agriculture & Technology
Pantnagar 263145, Uttarakhand

No. 40
January 2023

Message of IDP Leader, GBPUAT, Pantnagar

International Networking Is the Mantra of the Age

International Exchange Program of IDP-NAHEP has a multidirectional thrust towards upbringing excellence-based ecosystem in the university. The requirement of two research papers with NAAS rating above 7 along with 10 citations each is a mandatory milestone for selection under faculty exchange program. Indeed, it's an initiative for caliber and qualifications, and I personally appeal to all faculty members to cross the minimum target and avail the opportunity of international exposure. Naturally, an international visit leads to lots of networking opportunities at various levels which is very much required in the present global scenario. Each faculty should emerge visible on national and international platforms through their credentials and contributions. This is the mantra of organizational development of the age.



(M. S. Chauhan)

Students Interacted with Prominent IAS Trainer Dr. Shubhra Ranjan Tips and Strategy to Crack UPSC Exam was Shared

IDP-NAHEP organized an interactive session on *Strategy to Crack UPSC Exam* on December 17, 2022. The resource person of the session was Dr. Shubhra Ranjan, Prominent IAS Trainer and Founder, Shubhra Viraj Edutech IAS Academy. Dr. Ranjan owns a youtube channel named Shubhra Ranjan IAS which is an online initiative to guide and prepare students for general studies papers of UPSC exam. The channel has a wide reach with almost 0.3 M subscribers. The expert initiated the session by briefing the students about Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) examination and then discussed its importance, the level of competition, the opportunity it provides, the associated myths etc. Dr. Ranjan highlighted that UPSC exam occurs in three phases i.e., preliminary, mains and personal interview. Though lakhs of students appear for UPSC exam each year but the number gets screened out through preliminary and mains round, thus the final competition remains amongst the few selected ones in the interview round. The expert asked



students to not get hopeless looking into the large number of applicants for UPSC exam, as if one prepares strategically and under expert guidance the competition happens amongst a few. Dr. Ranjan also detailed about various services offered to merit holders in UPSC exam which range from IAS, IPS, IRS, IFS etc.

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About 120 students participated in the session and asked multiple questions to the expert. The students had queries regarding preparation for general studies paper, selection of optional subject, agriculture as optional subject, time-management etc. The expert responded to the students and suggested them to be updated regarding developments in various fields in national as well as global context. Reading newspapers, visiting websites of important ministries etc. is important in relation to general studies paper. Dr. Ranjan also emphasized that students need to work on their writing skills, as ineffective writing appears to be a major limitation for most of the students. In addition, during college life the students should actively participate in co-curricular and extra-curricular activities for the overall personality development. The session also witnessed the presence of Shri Ashish Bhatgain, Director, Administration & Monitoring, GBPUAT, Pantnagar and Dr. S.K.Kashyap, Dean, Agriculture and P.I., IDP-NAHEP. Shri Ashish Bhatgain stated that UPSC exam is not only a



competitive examination but a journey of rigour, passion and leaning; being an IAS officer he himself have served various districts of Uttarakhand and said, “Once you join any service after qualifying UPSC exam, it gives you position, authority and power through which one can create a difference in society at various levels.” Dr. Kashyap encouraged the students to stretch beyond their comfort zone, be updated about their surroundings and discipline and imbibe the insights shared by the expert for seriously preparing for their career. Overall, the session was full of enriching discussions and insights.

Workshop Organized on Identifying Pathway after CAT Results Discussion Held on Cracking Interviews & Writing Ability Test

Result of Common Admission Test (CAT) exam was declared on December 21, 2022 after which most of the students were in dilemma on how to move forward and prepare for Personal Interview (PI), Group Discussion (GD) and Written Ability Test (WAT). To help the students in creating a strategic pathway to land in a good institute based on their CAT results, IDP-NAHEP organized a workshop entitled *What next after CAT Results? Possibilities & Preparations* on December 24, 2022 at NAHEP building. The session was led by Mr. Avinashi Sharan, Academic Head & Lead Mentor, Career Launcher Noida. Mr. Avinashi is a Pantnagar Alumnus graduated from College of Technology and pursued MBA from Imperial College, London. About 35 students participated in the session.

The expert congratulated the students who qualified CAT exam and emphasized on building a good and effective resume. Various probable questions from the perspective of interview were discussed and the students were guided on designing and defending the various aspects of the resume varying from personal information to technical skills. The expert also provided certain preparation tips to the students



regarding general knowledge, market trends, technological advancements etc. Task and maintenance roles of group discussion were discussed by the expert. Mr. Avinashi also discussed the areas to focus to qualify writing ability test. Dr. S. K. Kashyap, Dean Agriculture & P.I., IDP-NAHEP was present throughout the session, he motivated students to conduct group discussions and practice mock interviews among their peer group. Dr. Kashyap appreciated the efforts of Mr. Avinashi who has mentored over 50,000 students for various exams, as he took out time for the youngsters of his alma mater to nurture them.

IDP-NAHEP Organized an Interactive Session on Career Opportunities and Financial Awareness Drive of Reserve Bank of India

The banking industry has always been a dynamic profession and there is always a need for banking professionals. In order to pursue a career in this sector, one must possess the required knowledge and skills. Considering the future career prospects, the IDP-NAHEP Pantnagar organized an interactive session on *Career opportunities and financial awareness drive of Reserve Bank of India*. On December 5, 2022, intending to generate awareness about financial products and services, along with career opportunities in the Reserve Bank of India. The speakers of the session, Ms. Disha Pandey, Manager, Reserve Bank of India, Dehradun, and Ms. Manisha, Assistant Manager, Reserve Bank of India, Dehradun, interacted with the Undergraduate students of the university and provided them guidance on various aspects of the Reserve Bank of India.

Keeping the session extremely interactive, Ms. Disha Pandey elaborated all sections and their work profiling at the Reserve Bank. She also explains the various financial services and products including NEFT, RTGS, and IMPS, as well as the laws and guidelines governing



consumer protection. Ms. Pandey also talked about recent Reserve Bank initiatives including the Charter of Customer Rights, Internal Ombudsman Scheme for Banks, Internal Ombudsman Scheme for Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs), Complaint Management System (CMS), and Strengthening of Grievance Redress Mechanism in Banks.

Further, Ms. Manisha emphasized the employment opportunity offered by the Reserve Bank of India. She said that the banking sector is growing and so are the opportunities therein. There is no “one size fits all”



profile. RBI offers different types of services, and recruits candidates with varying skill sets under the various departments like the Financial Stability Unit, Department of Statistics and Information Management, Department of Economic and Policy Research, Monetary Policy Department, Financial Markets Regulation Department, International Department, Financial Markets Operations Department, Corporate Strategy and Budget Department, etc. She also added

that a student who joins the RBI has access to a variety of advantages throughout his or her whole career.

Dr. S.K. Kashyap, Dean, College of Agriculture, P.I., IDP-NAHEP, GBPUA&T, Pantnagar, concluded the session by thanking the experts for guiding and motivating the students about career opportunities with the Reserve Bank of India. A total of 43 Undergraduate students participated in the session and gave encouraging feedback about the session.

Workshop for Effective Verbal & Non-Verbal Skills by IDP Pantnagar Right Management of Voice to Express the Various Emotions

The use of drama and art in education leads to holistic learning, accelerates personality development and imparts students with crucial life skills. IDP-NAHEP continuously working for overall personality development of the university students. In this context, IDP-NAHEP Pantnagar organized a three-day workshop on the topic *Mentoring Students to Enhance the Verbal & Non-Verbal Skills* on December 7 to 9, 2022. The Workshop focuses upon improving acting, non-verbal, and performing skills, in which Dr. Aman Kamboj, a session expert and a member of the university drama team conducted exercises and related activities to improve acting abilities. A total of 78 students from different colleges of the university were participated. On the first day, students were introduced to various types of acting styles and moods. On the second day, different forms of dramatics were focussed and differences between each form were highlighted. On the third day hands on training on makeup and stage management skills was given. All the



topics were supported by activities and practice sessions. The valedictory session was concluded by the remarks of Dr. S. K. Kashyap, P.I., IDP-NAHEP and Dr. S. K. Guru (Nodal officer) IDP-NAHEP. The event was coordinated by Dr. Aman Kamboj, Project Scientist IDP-NAHEP. The participants found that workshop helped them to develop confidence that's essential to speaking clearly, lucidly, thoughtfully. They expressed high interest for upcoming workshops and participation.

IDP-NAHEP Organised a Session on The Message of Karma in Geeta How to Become Stable Like the Ocean

Bhagavad Gita is considered one of the eternal Vedic literature. The teachings and the message of the literature are considered unambiguous, supreme, and still practised in the modern era. On the occasion of Geeta Jayanti, IDP-NAHEP organized one day programme on *The Message of Karma in Shrimad Bhagwat Geeta* on December 3, 2022 at University Centre, NAHEP. The programme was focused on how to deal with problems, restrain anger and desire, and live. There were 55 people present in the session. Dr. S.K. Kashyap, P.I., IDP-NAHEP started the session with definition of Karma in Srimad Bhagwat Geeta. The stress and frustration are the results of the expectations. The theory of karma stated that one should focus on work or action rather than the result of the act.

During the session it was discussed that in our daily life, we came across multiple conflicts that make us feel stuck, motionless, distressed, and fearful. We, sometimes can't make the right choices and fruitful



decisions out of fear and lack of wisdom. The message of Geeta has impact on our daily life, an immediate effect of sanctity and strengthening of faith, improved clarity of mind better focus, calm and content disposition in general and long term effect on personality traits like development of leadership and problem solving abilities. The session was concluded with the suggestion for professional and personal life which is based on self-knowledge, we should open up to the unknown dimensions and let our true capability flow out with time and circumstances.

Online Lecture on Innovations in Adaptation to Climate Change in Dryland Agriculture

IDP NAHEP Pantnagar organized an online overseas lecture on *Innovations in Adaptation to Climate Change in Dryland Agriculture* on December 16, 2022. The expert of the session was Professor Kadambot Siddique, Hackett Professor of Agriculture Chair and Director, The University of Western Australia, Perth. Professor Siddique is recognized internationally as a leader in crop science and agriculture. Professor Siddique's major contribution to dryland agriculture has been crop yield improvements in grain legumes and wheat, and the release of 13 new grain legume cultivars. In the session, the expert stated that the greatest advances in addressing the challenge that climate change presents will come from research

leading to a better understanding of crop physiology and genetics that can enhance further genetic improvements coupled with innovative farming systems. The event was conducted in Dr. K.C. Sharma Agronomy Conference Hall, College of Agriculture, and attended by a total of 45 students and faculty members. The session by Dr. Siddique received great appreciation from the scientists and students from the Department of Agronomy, College of Agriculture, and gained knowledge about the implications of climate change and adaptation strategies such as agronomic management and crop breeding for future improvements in water use efficiency and food production.

Brief Profile of Professor Kadambot H.M. Siddique

Professor Kadambot H.M. Siddique AM, CitWA, FTSE, FAIA, FNAAS, FISPP, FAAS, FPAS Hackett Professor of Agriculture Chair and Director The UWA Institute of Agriculture. After completion of his PhD at UWA in 1985 Professor Siddique joined the Department of Agriculture and Food, Western Australia (DAFWA) as a cereal crop physiologist and worked his way up to principal scientist and leader of DAFWA & Pulse Program. He became the Director of Centre for Legumes in Mediterranean Agriculture (CLIMA) at UWA in 2001 and remained in this position until 2006 when he was appointed to establish and lead The UWA Institute of Agriculture. Professor Siddique is recognised internationally as a leader in crop science and agriculture.



Students Learnt the Art of Content Building under IDP Writing Studio

Content is Anything that Add Value to the Readers' Life

At present time ample of content is available at one click on internet. Most of the students today consider Google as the best source for any type of content. However, this practice of referring to Google for content building has led to ethical concerns in writing. While analyzing the reason behind, it was found that most of the students were not aware of the appropriate and diverse sources of content. Moreover, the skill of reviewing multiple sources and then creating own content by analyzing and inferring from the reviews is a critical skill which students need to learn. Thus to impart this critical skill of content



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Guest Lecture Held Online on Crop Diversification as a Nature-Positive Strategy

In the series of Overseas Lectures by renowned Scientists and Researchers IDP-NAHEP Pantnagar along with the Department of Genetics and Plant Breeding, College of Agriculture organized an Online Lecture on *Crop Diversification as a Nature-Positive Strategy* on December 28, 2022. The expert of the session was Dr. R. K. Singh, Head of Crop Diversification and Genetics Section, International Center for Biosaline Agriculture, Dubai. Singh is an illustrious alumnus of G.B. Pant University and pursued his Ph.D. Degree from Genetics and Plant Breeding Department, College of Agriculture. The lecture was conducted at Seminar Hall, Genetics and Plant Breeding Department, and was attended by more than 50 students and faculty staff from College of Agriculture.

The session started with the introductory remarks of Dr. Salil K Tewari, Professor & Head, the Genetics and Plant Breeding department. Dr. Singh shared his insights on Crop Diversification and how it allows farmers to employ biological cycles to minimize inputs, conserve the resource base, maximize yields, and reduce risk due to ecological and environmental factors. It also serves as an important opportunity to augment income and employment generation for rural communities. Crop diversification boosts land-use efficiency and crop output by improving soil's physical and chemical qualities. At the end of the session, participants got the chance to interact with expert, where they gave their regards for his informative lecture and had a brainstorming Q&A Session.

Brief Profile of Dr. R.K. Singh

Dr. R.K. Singh is Head of Crop Diversification and Genetics Section. He joined ICBA in November 2018. He leads research teams studying such crops as quinoa, barley, mustard, safflower; trees such as date palm; and halophytes like *Salicornia* and *Suaeda*, among others. He started his career in 1986 as a scientist at the Agricultural Research Services of the Central Soil Salinity Research Institute (the Indian Council of Agricultural Research) in Karnal, India. He had risen through the ranks to become a principal scientist. In 2005 he moved to the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) as a rice breeder for salt-affected areas. He had worked in different capacities at IRRI until 2018. In 2016-2018 he led the trait development team at IRRI focusing on salinity, heat and problem soils. In his past roles, Dr. R.K. Singh led the teams which developed and released several salt-tolerant rice varieties, including basmati rice, in India.



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building, a five days workshop from December 07-11, was organized under IDP writing studio on the topic *How to write research-based articles: the art of content building*. Dr. Shweta Gupta, Fellow- IIM Indore, Director Arohana Management Solutions Pvt. Ltd., Dehradun was the resource person for the workshop.

Dr. Shweta began the session by highlighting the importance of content building. Moving forward, the expert detailed regarding various reliable, authentic and relevant sources of content to be referred for any writing assignment. Systematic steps of writing research based articles were discussed in the workshop which included collection, analyses and

synthesis. A session was completely dedicated to nurture the participants for writing short articles, as an outcome of the session all the participants wrote one research based article in different topics. Dr. Shweta encouraged and guided the students to build their own content repository which would comprise of the type of content they prefer to read and refer in future for ex., Google Scholar library. The workshop ensured the participation of students through multiple individual & group activities, assignments and brainstorming sessions. Approx 200 students enthusiastically participated in the workshop and learnt through expert guidance, peer group learning and group processes.

Online Lecture Delivered on Sustainable and Resilient Food Systems

DP-NAHEP, Pantnagar and Department of Agricultural Economics, College of Agriculture organized an online lecture on *Sustainable and Resilient Food Systems* on December 28, 2022. The expert of the session was Dr. Meeta Punjabi Mehta, Food Systems Expert, FAO, Rome. About 30 students participated in the session and gained insights on the pertinent and relevant topic of the session. Dr. Meeta started the session with the definition of sustainable food system that provides healthy environment and social system for farmers. The complexity of food system requires a more holistic and coordinated approach. Many food security and nutrition challenges are complex problems whose solutions are contested.

Dr. Mehta stated that food is the basic necessity of life, however due to increasing global population, degradation of natural resources, huge greenhouse gas emission etc. the sustainability of food system has become a matter of concern. The discussion was led towards why everyone should be concerned about the food system sustainability and resilience, how our food system became unsustainable, importance of food systems approach and key concepts like food loss, food waste, food deserts, food swamps etc. were discussed in the session. The expert also highlighted emerging findings on sustainable food systems and various



initiatives in India to promote agro-ecological practices. The expert suggested assessment of the food systems at country and territories level to identify the key challenges. From an environmental, social health and economic perspective sustainable food systems can help to development. She focused on food wastage and use of sustainable food packaging. She suggested to share and learn indigenous food knowledge and recipes. Dr. Shweta Chaudhary, Assistant Professor, Agricultural Economics concluded the session mentioning the urgency and relevance of the insightful discussion and expressed gratitude to the expert for sharing the valuable knowledge and sparing time for the session.

Brief Profile of Dr. Meeta Panjabi Mehta

Dr. Meeta Punjabi Mehta is a Food Systems Expert and working as an International Consultant at UNFAO Rome. Her work relates to sustainable urban food systems transformation, a leading objective of UN Global Agenda 2030. Dr. Mehta holds a Ph.D in Agricultural Economics from Michigan State University and possess extensive work experience with leading multilateral agencies including World Bank, UNFAO, IFAD, BMGF, and CGIAR among others. With more than 20 years of experience across geographies (India, South/South-east Asia, Central Asia, West Africa), Dr. Mehta is well versed with the contemporary challenges to agriculture and food system at the regional and global level.

Key focus areas include- Food systems analysis, value chain analysis, policy analysis, emerging platforms for agricultural marketing, situation of extension and agricultural services, climate smart agricultural practices along with use of ICT and geospatial technologies for agriculture. She have contributed strongly to projects implemented by multi-lateral agencies by engaging in project design and review missions along with undertaking in-depth project evaluations and impact assessment.





The International Exposure : Path-Breaking Initiative of IDP-NAHEP

Dr. S.K. Kashyap

Dean, College of Agriculture/ PI, IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar

It is a matter of pleasure and privilege that 10 faculty members have already moved for international visits under IDP-NAHEP and an equal number of faculty members have been selected who will complete their travel by March 2023. The impact of International exposure was found to be significant on academic thrust, exposure, and alienage. It is found that their visits are generating absolute change in the perspectives of the faculty members, which is very important for the organization. I assume this intervention as the path breaking initiative of IDP-NAHEP at Pantnagar.



The Main Events of January 2023

S. No.	Event	Proposed Date	Venue	Nodal Unit	Convener
1.	Release of University Year Book 2023	01-01-2023	University Centre- NAHEP Building	Project Team	Dr. S.K. Kashyap, College of Agriculture
2.	5 days Workshop on Systematic Note Writing : Techniques and Tricks	04.01.2023 to 08.01.2023	University Centre - NAHEP Building	Academic Team	Dr. S.K. Guru, College of Basic Science and Humanities
3.	International Faculty Exchange Programme: Visit to Washington State University, USA	05.12.2022 to 08.03.2023	USA	Academic Team	Dr. S.K. Guru, College of Basic Sciences and Humanities
4.	International Faculty Exchange Programme: Visit to CAES, New Heaven, USA	14.12.2022 to 14.01.2023	USA	Academic Team	Dr. S.K. Guru, College of Basic Science and Humanities
5.	International Faculty Exchange Programme: Visit to University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, USA	31.01.2023	University centre - NAHEP Building	Academic Team	Dr. S.K. Guru, College of Basic Science and Humanities
6.	An Interactive Session on Defence as Career : The Selection Process	19.01.2023	Online	Academic Team	Dr. S.K. Guru, College of Basic Sciences and Humanities
7.	Visit of Mr. Yair Eshel- Agricultural Attaché Embassy of Israel in India	23.01.2023 to 24.01.2023	University centre - NAHEP Building	Project Team	Dr. S. K. Kashyap, College of Agriculture

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