



IDP-NAHEP Pantnagar Updates

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

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Message of IDP Leader, GBPUAT, Pantnagar

Time to Create a Roadmap: ICAR to Take the Lead

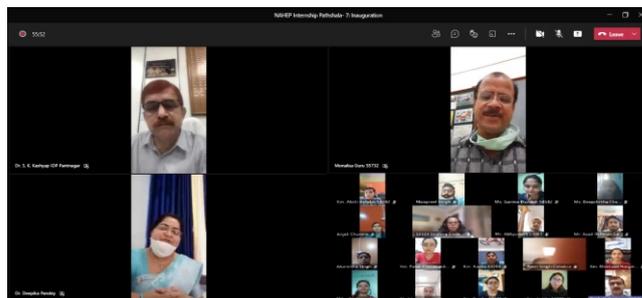
The National Agricultural Higher Education Project of World Bank and ICAR has emerged as one of the most significant projects in ushering a wave of transformation in the agricultural universities of India. Now, when the project completion period is approaching, it becomes essential to chalk out a roadmap in order to sustain the changes introduced through different project interventions. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) must take the lead and guide the agricultural universities in institutionalizing the changes and the initiatives by providing intellectual as well as financial support. The universities must be mentored to plan, delegate and implement the institutionalization related works. This effort by ICAR will definitely result in a drastic improvement in the overall agricultural education scenario of the country. Also, it will be a strong step towards fulfilment of the objectives of the National Education Policy. I am glad to share that IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar has already initiated the efforts to institutionalize their novel initiatives. Moreover, the IDP Pantnagar team is dedicated to seek out the pathway to retain the positive impact of the project. Similarly, other agricultural universities also need to initiate this string of institutionalization with handholding of ICAR.



(Tej Partap)

7th Edition of NAHEP Internship Pathshala Launched

One of the novel initiatives of IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar was the commencement of two months paid internship for undergraduate students of Pantnagar University. This two month internship was named as the NAHEP Internship Pathshala. On July 31, 2021 the 7th edition of this internship was launched with selected 15 undergraduate students. The focus of this internship is towards digital content development, data management, impact analysis and success story development. To select competent students for internship, online assessments were conducted for general aptitude, language, and comprehensive writing skill on June 26, 2021. More than 300 candidates appeared for the internship examination. Just like the previous internship pathshala, this time also students have been assigned the tasks in teams along with the assistance of mentors to learn new skills and generate an understanding on



how to identify, define and describe relevant aspects of their problem areas. The inaugural session of the internship had the presence of Dr. S.K. Kashyap, PI, IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar, who sowed the seeds of motivation and discussed about the objectives and targets needed to be achieved in these two months. Dr. S.K. Guru, Nodal Officer (Academic) and Dr. Manisha Rani, Nodal Officer (Procurement), IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar also interacted with the students and welcomed them in IDP-NAHEP Pantnagar family.



IDP Pantnagar Provides a Linguistics Platform for Learning Foreign Languages

The craze of learning a foreign language is increasing as the world has globalized and there is no doubt that bilingualism is the most useful real-world skill. To keep students interested towards bilingualism, French Language classes are being conducted regularly since November 2019 under the Language Lab Component of IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar. Continuing the series, on July 26, 2021, the Language Lab Component introduced the fifth batch of French A1 language course. A total of 70 students registered themselves for learning this foreign language. At the same time, 20 students who successfully completed French A1 level are now continuing French A2 level to master the language skills. When asked from students why they wish to learn a foreign language, multiple responses were received, such as it improves verbal and spatial abilities, enhances creative thinking capacity, helps in understanding a new culture and language.

In the first class of the new batch, students came across some French words such as 'souvenir, RSVP



(répondez s'il vous plaît), déjà vu, en route, tête à tête, cliché, bon voyage, rendezvous, crème and many more that we use in our daily English language. Students apprehended that French like other European languages such as Portuguese, Spanish and Italian has its root from Latin language which is considered as mother of all these languages. This experience of almost two years of running the foreign language classes is exhilarating for the IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar team. The visible change in the soft and hard skills of students is overwhelming. Also, the outcomes have been extremely beneficial for the students, as more than 600 students have been a part of different events of the Language Lab Component.

Five Days Online Workshop Held under IDP-NAHEP Writing Studio on Skills of Good Writing

The IDP-NAHEP Writing Studio is an attempt of IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar which emphasizes on developing the writing skills of the University students. In the series of writing studio workshops, the fourth workshop on *Skills of Good Writing: Concerns of Micro and Macro Editing* was organized in online mode from July 21-26, 2021. The participants of the Writing Studio workshop were mentored by Dr. Shweta Gupta, an alumna of Pantnagar University, Fellow, IIM Indore, and Director, Arohana Management Solutions, Dehradun. Dr. Gupta has been consistently contributing to the editing of educational and official books and documents. Dr. S.K. Kashyap, PI, IDP-NAHEP Pantnagar addressed the participants in the inaugural session of the workshop and shared his insights about writing and gave a mantra that to achieve the title of a good writer, one should first get skilled in preparing error-free drafts. Further, Dr. S.K. Guru, Nodal Officer (Academic), IDP-NAHEP Pantnagar also gave his wishes and blessings to the participants. In the workshop, the

expert discussed the concepts of initial concerns of writing, draft designing, attributes of written draft, structuring of matter, propositions between introduction and conclusion, possible errors and invisible mistakes in written drafts. The issues of plagiarism, difference between reference and citation were also thoroughly discussed. Participants were given regular writing tasks to offer them more hands-on experience. A total of 80 students got benefitted from the five-days workshop. Participants stated that they had learnt a lot about editing and that their writing skills had improved dramatically. The course, they stated, not only sharpened their technical skills but also helped them develop a new perspective on writing. They expressed their heartfelt gratitude to the expert.



Ms. Shweta Gupta
Fellow, IIM, Indore
Director, Arohana Management Solution

Enhancing Soft Skills: Workshop Held on Effective Presentation Skills

The present era places great emphasis on good presentation skills. This is because it enables an individual to interact with the audience, transmit the messages with clarity, engage the audience in the presentation, and interpret and understand the mindset of the listeners. Targeting these meaningful skills, a two-hour online workshop on *Effective Presentation Skills* was organized by IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar on July 15, 2021. The expert of the training was Dr. Anjali Chunera, who is presently associated as Post-Doctoral Fellow in IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar. Dr. S.K. Kashyap, Dean, College of Agriculture and PI, IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar was present throughout the workshop for providing his immense knowledge and guidance to the participants. This interesting training programme had about 75 participants who were highly excited to learn about the skills and showed their keen interest through their engrossed participation. Dr. S.K. Guru, Nodal Officer (Academic), IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar stating the relevance of this workshop for

undergraduate students said that the presentation skill is one of the most critical skill for an excellent career. Dr. Kashyap also said that presentation skills are the utmost important skills to be honed by everyone for a successful life. The workshop enabled participants to develop core presentation skills and give them the opportunity to practise these skills in a convenient and friendly environment. The workshop covered objectives like the secrets of impressive presenters, framework for structuring a presentation, steps of engaging your audience, methods for highlighting and emphasising key messages and delivering presentations that have an impact. The workshop also gave hands-on practice on some tricks to use in MS PowerPoint for creating effective presentations. Thereafter, the participants were provided an opportunity to practice and refine the way of putting forward their messages and enhancing their persuasive powers. Overall, the workshop received an overwhelming participation of students.



Nurturing Leaders of Tomorrow: Leadership Skills Workshop Organized by IDP Pantnagar

It is rightly said that your comfort zone is a beautiful place, but nothing ever grows there. In order to motivate students to come out from their comfort zone and for making them understand about how to take lead in different situations, a two hour online workshop was conducted on *Leadership Skills* on July 15, 2021 under the academic component of IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar. The purpose of the workshop was to sensitize the students about their emerging leadership roles and significance of taking initiatives. Dr. S.K. Kashyap, PI, IDP-NAHEP and Dr. S.K. Guru, Nodal Officer (Academic), IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar inaugurated the session. Dr. S.K. Guru initiated the session and said that leadership quality plays an important role in each and every phase of life. It is an important skill that helps in group dealing. He also emphasized that with the help of leadership skills an individual can look different from others. Dr. S.K. Kashyap, PI, IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar was the expert of the workshop. He opened the workshop by recalling some great leaders and their sacrifices for the nation. He explained the circumstances, where different leaders took initiatives and fought not only for

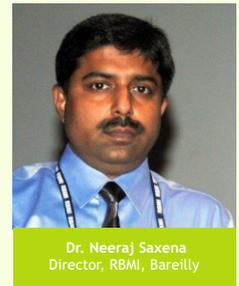
themselves but also for others. The workshop was conducted with focus on three aspects. Foremost, the expert interacted with the participants and discussed regarding the characteristics of leader. Students were shown pictures of influential leaders and asked about the important characteristics of leaders. Students responded confidence, motivation, risk-taking ability, decision-making and influential as the important ones. The participants enthusiastically participated in the session and asked several questions to the experts regarding leaders, leadership and leadership styles. The second aspect included a sensitization session where a brief detailing about the concepts of leader, leadership skills and leadership competencies was explained to the participants along with some success stories. The third aspect had a focus on elaboration of some case studies where individuals by their own efforts influenced people and brought change for the sake of good. Concludingly, the participants interacted with the experts and resolved their queries. A total of 50 students attended the session and were happy to learn about leadership skills and competencies in a related perspective.



Undergraduate Students Learnt the Importance of Time Management

Effective time management is associated with greater academic performance and lower levels of anxiety in students; however, many students find it hard to find a balance between their studies and day-to-day lives. Therefore, focusing on the student perspective, an online webinar on *Time Management* was organized for undergraduate students to learn strategies for managing time efficiently. The programme started with Dr. S.K. Guru, Nodal Officer (Academic), IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar welcoming the expert of the webinar and briefing the participants about the webinar and various activities undertaken by IDP-NAHEP. The programme was also graced by the presence of Dr. R.S. Chauhan, Dean, College of Fisheries, GBPUAT, Pantnagar who pointed out the importance of time management in life and suggested that a person should eliminate unnecessary activities from their daily schedule for increasing work efficiency. Dr. S.K. Kashyap, Dean, College of Agriculture, GBPUAT, Pantnagar and PI, IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar stated that in order to manage time it is important to organize yourself first. In his views students who can set appropriate work goals for

themselves and develop time management strategies are usually successful in life. The expert of the webinar was Dr. Neeraj Saxena who is Director, Rakshpal Bahadur Management Institute, Bareilly. The expert initiated the webinar by discussing how to defeat self-imposed time robbers. He also explained the concept of procrastination. Other important areas like how to avoid overloading, how to make work interesting, how to solve fear of failure, how to avoid time wasting meetings, reverse delegation, use of social media and culture of distraction were also covered. He also conducted two self-assessment tests for students for assessing time management skills. There were around 80 participants from all across the country. The webinar culminated with an intriguing series of questions and answers from the students. Dr. Vipul Gupta, Associate Professor, College of Fisheries and Project Scientist, IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar coordinated the event.



Dr. Neeraj Saxena
Director, RBMI, Bareilly



Online Guest Lecture Series Organized on Digital Agriculture

The Agri-Informatics Component of IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar, organized a four days online guest lecture series from July 14-17, 2021 on the theme - *Digital Agriculture for Enhancing Profitability*. The lecture series was specifically targeted towards undergraduate students of Pantnagar University. The experts in the lecture series were Dr. Brajendra, Principal Scientist, ICAR-Indian Institute of Rice Research, Hyderabad; Dr. Satendra Kumar Mangrauthia, Senior Scientist, ICAR-Indian Institute of Rice Research Hyderabad and Dr. A.K. Vishwakarma, Principal Scientist, ICAR-Indian Institute of Soil Science, Bhopal. Dr. A.S. Nain, Coordinator, Agri-Informatics Component, IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar said that being into agriculture, we need to introspect on how we can solve the problems of the farming community through automation technologies and improving their skill sets.



The online lecture series was initiated with Dr. Brajendra. He introduced the students about digital soil health management system and techniques of automated soil testing analysis. He provided exposure to the students about a web based decision support system for lime recommendation in acidic soils which can automatically calculate the quantity of lime required to bring the soil to a target ph value of 6.5 and can even provide immediate solutions. He further discussed on how soil education, training and outreach can form a genuine partnership between those with experience and those with expertise to create a dynamic learning environment with a high probability of ensuring a more sustainably managed landscape. While concluding, he explained how soil management



provides a dynamic living and learning environment which balances the digital and real world.

The second lecture was delivered by Dr. Mangrauthia who focused and discussed on advanced computational tools used in bioinformatics. He also talked about agricultural genomics that leads to the global understanding of plant/animal and pathogen biology, and also told that its application would be beneficial for agriculture. He added that the ability to process, manage, capture, interpret and analyze data has become more important than ever. Thereafter, he discussed application of various bioinformatics tools in biological research which enable storage, retrieval, analysis, annotation and visualization of results and promote better understanding of biological system in fullness.

Dr. Vishwakarma shared his insights on the third day of the lecture series. He discussed about Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) that help in popularizing the growing demand for new agricultural technologies. He also talked about how ICT helps in empowering the rural people by providing better access to natural resources, improved agricultural technologies, effective production strategies, markets, banking and financial services etc. He further explained that ICTs not only help to disseminate information, rather it also improves the farmers' knowledge base, increase their participation and enhances knowledge sharing amongst farmers. This in turn improves the capability of farmers to manage weather risks, technological risks, price risks and many more such risks.

A total of 92 participants attended the lecture series. Overall, the lecture series helped the participants to understand the emerging digital technologies that can be of immense significance for the agricultural community. Dr. Rajeev Ranjan, Assistant Professor, Department of Agrometeorology coordinated the lecture series.

Networking, Collaborations, Handholding: Details of Important Visits and Discussions

- Dr. Pankaj Mittal, Secretary General of AIU, New Delhi visited University Centre - NAHEP Building on July 01, 2021. Dr. Mittal visited different units/components of IDP-NAHEP Pantnagar and interacted with the team members. Later Dr. S.K. Kashyap, PI, IDP-NAHEP Pantnagar in presence of Dr. Tej Partap, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, GBPUAT Pantnagar gave a detailed overview of the developments/facilities that have come up across into the University under the aegis of the project.
- Dr. A.K. Madan, Nodal Officer ESP and Dr. Rajneesh Sirohi, faculty from IDP-NAHEP, Mathura (DUVASU) visited University Centre - NAHEP Building on July 07, 2021. Their visit was to get an insight of ESS units put in place by IDP team in Pantnagar campus as well as to understand the procurement and other actions related to installation running the system. The IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar team provided all required support to the DUVASU team.
- Delegates from Guinea, Africa visited University Centre - NAHEP Building on July 17, 2021. The visit was intended to generate collaboration with Pantnagar University for bringing up a blueprint of agricultural developments for Guinea. The visit was followed by a discussion session on various technological and agricultural transformation which was coordinated by Dr. S.K. Kashyap, PI, IDP-NAHEP and was attended by Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, GBPUAT and Deans and Directors of Pantnagar University.
- Dr. Tej Partap, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of GBPUAT, Pantnagar conducted a brainstorming session with all Deans and Directors on the topic 'National Education Policy - A Blueprint of Pantnagar' on July 17, 2021 at University Centre - NAHEP Building in which he detailed the upcoming developments under National Education Policy 2020 and the possible get-ahead at college and University level.

The Main Events of August 2021

S. No.	Event	Proposed Date	Venue	Nodal Unit	Convener
1.	Webinar on Honing Competencies for Success in Life	03-08-2021	Online	Academic Team	Dr. S.K. Guru, College of Basic Sciences and Humanities
2.	Webinar on Cloud Computing and Digital Education	09-08-2021 to 10-08-2021	Online	Agri-Informatics Team	Dr. A.S. Nain, College of Agriculture
3.	Workshop on Developing Success Habits	12-08-2021	Online	Academic Team	Dr. S.K. Guru, College of Basic Sciences and Humanities
4.	Training on Role of Autodesk Inventor, Gazebo OS and CAD in Automation of Agriculture	16-08-2021 to 21-08-2021	Online	Agri-Informatics Team	Dr. A.S. Nain, College of Agriculture
5.	5 Days Workshop on Creative Writing Skills	25-08-2021 to 29-08-2021	Online	Academic Team	Dr. S.K. Guru, College of Basic Sciences and Humanities



Upkeeping the Pace of NAHEP Achievements

Dr. S.K. Kashyap

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

The IDP-NAHEP project has been running in G.B. Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar since September 2019. In almost two years of journey, the project activities and initiatives have led to tremendous transformation in the teaching-learning ecosystem of the University, the outlook of students and teachers towards innovation and entrepreneurship, and social and environmental sensitivity of the campus residents. However, to upkeep the pace of this transformation and to sustain its impacts, it is essential that an exit strategy is carefully formulated. The strategy should be such that it helps in continuance of the different NAHEP endeavours. All trainings, workshops, internships, and other student activities should continue with the same flow. At IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar we are making utmost efforts to prepare a well thought strategy to not only continue the NAHEP impact but also enhance it in the times to come. Keeping in mind the broader purview of this ambitious project, the IDP Pantnagar team left no stone unturned to provide maximum benefits to the students and the faculty members of Pantnagar University. Thus, we are more than eager to sustain the benefit, the impact and the change that has occurred in the best possible manner.

