



IDP-NAHEP Pantnagar Updates

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

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Message of IDP Leader, GBPUAT, Pantnagar

NAHEP Interventions Led to Change in Outlook

The World Bank funded project IDP-NAHEP has been functional in G.B. Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar since September 2019. In the last three and a half years, the interventions made by IDP Pantnagar across the University has led to a noticeable change in the outlook of different stakeholders, especially the students. Through activities and events targeting the higher order cognitive skills, the NAHEP interventions helped undergraduate students of different disciplines to enhance their knowledge, skills and awareness. This resulted in a change in perspective and outlook of students towards agricultural sciences, career prospects and self-development. The change is evident through academic performance of students, choice of career options, induced risk taking ability and pursuance of entrepreneurship as a career, etc. Without NAHEP, this leap of change would not have emerged. I appreciate the tenacity of IDP Pantnagar team for taking continuous measures for nurturing the University students in a need-based manner.



(M. S. Chauhan)

Orientation Programme Workshop for Foreign Exchange Programme

Set to Fly to Expanding Horizons for Exposure and Learning

The IDP-NAHEP project has a distinct mandate of providing foreign exposure to undergraduate students through international student exchange programme. In this regard, IDP Pantnagar continuing the support for students of the university under foreign exchange programme.

An orientation programme for a group of 20 students selected under International Faculty Exchange Programme of IDP-NAHEP Pantnagar was conducted on 20th February 2023 in presence of Dr. M.S Chauhan, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor GBPUAT, Dr. S.K. Kashyap, Dean Agriculture, Dr. S.K. Guru, Nodal Officer- Academic, Dr. R.M. Srivastava, Coordinator- International School of Agriculture, Dr. Aman Kamboj, Dr. Sachin Kumar & Dr. Omveer Singh. Dr. M.S. Chauhan guided the students to focus on leadership and managerial skills and shared his own experiences of visits to foreign institutes.



Dr. S.K. Kashyap P.I., IDP-NAHEP orientated the students to prepare themselves for international visit. He focused that students should be very well aware about their country, state and university before visiting any other country. Students need to know the

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Proficiency in Academic Writing: Preparing for Foreign Exposure Visit by IDP Writing Studio

To begin the journey of international foreign exchange visit, a five days training was organised for the selected group of 20 students in all possible skills and etiquettes. It was a previsit training organised in the NAHEP building at Pantnagar on February 6 to 10, 2023. The session expert was Dr. Shweta Gupta, IIM Fellow, Director Arohana Management and Solutions. The expert started the session with ice breaking exercise and group process. Students were instructed to do SWOT analysis for this visit. She instructed the students to explore what are benefits of an international exposure. She helped the students to develop a perspective of visiting IRRI Philippines. During the workshop, the expert meticulously focused on key points during presenting oneself during formal occasions. The students were nurtured in Filipino accent of English, Culture and system of Philippines, how to question and what to question, vision and mission of visit, individualized agenda of learning, dress sense, common etiquettes, common do's-don'ts and what not She also discussed in



detail about the research goals during a foreign visit. Special attention was given on how to choose appropriate words for different types of verbal communication, depending upon the occasion, the audience type and the emotions that have to depicted through words. A total of 20 selected students attended this five-day workshop where the sessions were fully hands-on, and assignment based. The students were from different colleges and they become a well-knit team during this pre training duration.

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prominent research outcomes of the university to be aware about the need to nurture ourselves about departments. Students need to get acquainted with culture of foreign, accent and their perspective. To prepare mind-sets students should work upon on soft skills, technological knowledge and international perspectives from IRRI side. To develop a perspective

focused on research one should be fully aware about their state and major achievements of the university. Dr. R.M Srivastava, Coordinator - International School of Agriculture discussed the research goals and major achievements of the university. Dr. Amit Keswani Principal Scientist, IDP-NAHEP talked about what are do's and don'ts for international journey.



IDP-NAHEP Organized Guest Lecture on Agriculture Research: An Emerging Career Option

Recent decades have seen massive changes in agriculture, leading to Increased use of technology, Greater global competition (due to globalisation of trade), More diverse agricultural product range and Increased environmental & health awareness (e.g. growth in organic & sustainable farming). For these changes, there is a need of people who are well trained and experienced and prepared to adopt new world of agriculture. In this context, IDP-NAHEP team at Pantnagar has been conducting lectures for awareness generation and overall development of the university students. In the series of offline guest lecture, recently a lecture on the topic *Agriculture Research: An Emerging Career Option* was organised on February 9, 2023. The expert of the session was Dr. Megha Joshi, Vice President, Q & Q Research Insights Pvt. Ltd. Dr. Joshi is an illustrious alumna of Pantnagar University; she did B.Sc. Agriculture from GBPUAT, Pantnagar. To begin the Dr. Joshi gave a brief introduction of Agriculture market research. Market research is a systematic process of obtaining, analysing, and interpreting data for actionable decision-making. Conducting good market research is

the only way to survive in a competitive market. It provides companies with an overview of emerging market trends, consumer behaviour, and market condition. She explained how they conduct career market research, need of market research, methodology, qualitative and quantitative research. How they Identify the need of farmers, how does market research work? With this she also gave a brief introduction about Q & Q Research & it's establishment, awards.

During Q & A session she responded to students about unconventional and distinct career pathways for agriculturists. Dr. Joshi said the first step to start a market research company is to focus upon social contacts and experience. Secondly, one should be aware about qualitative and quantitative research work. A total of 40 students were attended the session and interacted with the expert. Dr. S.K. Kashyap, Dean, College of Agriculture and P.I., IDP-NAHEP concluded the session and said there is a need to connect with stakeholders and understanding the market, vigilant about market research. It is a very good career option in market research analysis.



A Session on Higher Education and Internships Abroad in Veterinary Science Option and Strategies Shared by Alumni of Pantnagar

IDP Pantnagar continuously working for academic transformation and providing career guidance for students of the university. With this objective, an interactive session on the topic “*Higher Education and Internships Abroad in Veterinary Sciences: Options & Strategies*” was organized under Academic Component of IDP-NAHEP Pantnagar on February 10, 2023. Dr. Jaishree Sharma, Ph.D. Scholar (Immunology) and Dr. Ipshita Upadhyay, Ph.D. Scholar (Pathobiology), College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Illinois, Urbana Champaign, USA were the experts of the session. The experts were illustrious alumni of Pantnagar university. They did graduation from College of Veterinary and Animal Science.

In beginning of the session Dr. Jaishree introduced the participant to her research work and department. Further, she explained the work culture in foreign university. Dr. Ipshita mentored the university students on various career opportunities for higher education. The experts talked about How to plan for a Higher Studies in US, first step is to carefully select the subject and be committed to subject and knowledgeable about current technology and related areas. PhD programmes involve research work with faculty. So students need to pick one whose work interests the most. Third step is



consideration of location and cost of living before choosing a university. Meanwhile students need to keep the documents ready, especially degree, transcript, GRE, TOEFL (IELTS), LORs and SOPs. Dr. Ipshita said it is very important to attend interviews and for this students should prepare well for it. Further, they also discussed about various scholarships available for students i.e. Fulbright-Nehru Doctoral Research Fellowship, Inlaks Shivdandani scholarship for international students. The session was attended by around 82 students. Dr. Aman Kamboj, Project Scientist, IDP-NAHEP coordinated the session and encouraged the students to participate and ask questions as such sessions on higher studies are of immense importance to keep ourselves updated.

IDP-NAHEP Organized an Interactive Session on Packhouse Technology

IDP-NAHEP organized an online interactive session on *Packhouse Technology Automation: Equipment and Operations* on February 11, 2023. The expert of the session was Dr. Subir Kumar Chakraborty, Principal Scientist, Agro Produce Processing Division, ICAR-CIAE, Bhopal, M.P. His major research focus is on Postharvest Automation, Machine Vision, Deep-learning and has about 60-70 research publications to his credit. Initially, he sensitized students about the adverse economic impact of food waste. He told through statistical reference that fruits and vegetables contribute only 8 per cent to post harvest loss however it lead to about 37 per cent of economic loss.

Dr. Chakraborty also explained the difference between food loss and food waste stating that, “Food loss occurs from production (20 per cent) to storage (40 per cent) phase while Food waste occurs from retail (12 per cent) to consumption (28 per cent)

phase.” He also elaborated the process of post-harvest treatment and packhouse procedure like grading, sorting, washing etc. The expert detailed about Singulation which is the process through which automation in grading is achieved. He demonstrated the working of singulation apparatus



and its various advantages. About 40 students actively participated in the workshop and interacted with the expert regarding packhouse technologies and possible technological innovations for reducing post harvest losses. Dr. U.C. Lohani, Project Scientist, IDP-NAHEP coordinated the session and encouraged the youngsters to participate and ask questions as such sessions on emerging technologies are of immense importance to keep ourselves updated.

Guest Lecture Delivered on Remote Sensing and GIS Applications in Agriculture by IIRS-ISRO Scientist

Remote Sensing and Geographical Information System (GIS) are two rapidly emerging areas in agriculture sector. In due importance of this, Agri- Informatics component conducted offline guest lecture on *Remote Sensing and GIS Applications in Agriculture* under IDP-NAHEP on February 11, 2023. The motive of the program was to make students aware about applications of GIS and remote sensing techniques and how to analyze soil nutrition levels to best benefits the plants and soil.

The lecture was delivered by Dr. Suresh Kumar, Senior Scientist, Indian Institute of Remote Sensing ISRO, Dehradun. Dr. Kumar initiated the program by briefing on geospatial technologies, remote sensing and geostationary satellites. Emphasising on the application of GIS in agriculture he added that it has helped in increasing the crop production and reducing costs in farming by enabling better management of land resources. He further made participants aware that GIS represents powerful tool sets that are used for transforming and displaying real-world spatial data; and remote sensing data retrieved by air and space located sources provides much of this valuable data for mapping and environmental management and planning.



In the closing session of the session, Dr. S.K. Kashyap, P.I., IDP-NAHEP and Dr. S.K. Guru, Nodal officer, IDP-NAHEP also elaborated applications of remote sensing in the agricultural sector such as crop product forecasting, crop identification and mapping of soil and water resources. At the end of the session, the expert expressed his delight and congratulated IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar for organising such informative technical sessions for students and expressed that it is important for agriculture graduates to get acquainted with experienced and knowledgeable technocrats for increasing their social network and gaining knowledge. The session was appreciated by all participants who learnt the practical use of remote sensing and GIS.

IDP Pantnagar Conducted 2 Week Remedial Crash Course for JRF/SRF Aspirants

Remedial classes were mandated under IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar Plan. The Academic Component of IDP-NAHEP Pantnagar conducted 2-week remedial crash course for students preparing for higher studies in College of Agriculture and Community Science. The inaugural session was organised on February 06, 2023 in which Dr. S.K. Kashyap, Dean Agriculture & PI, IDP-NAHEP gave introductory remarks about the remedial component being taken up under the project. Dr. Amit Kesarwani, Assistant Professor (Agriculture) & Dr. Shefali Massey, Assistant Professor (Community Science), Project Scientists IDP-NAHEP, introduced about the course modules of their respective colleges. The remedial classes of College of



Agriculture were divided into six modules i.e. Genetics and plant breeding, Horticulture and Vegetable

A Session for Exploring Opportunities and Scope of Agripreneurship

Farmers and Agriculturists Need to Transform into Agripreneurs

Agriculture and Allied Sciences have potential to create entrepreneurs with their innovative, feasible and scalable idea focused to solve multiple problems and issues emerging in the field. It is often said that it is the high time that farmers and agriculturists of our nation must transform into agripreneurs, but the question emerges, how is it possible and what are the possible schemes, internships, trainings etc. which could help them to design proposal, begin their startups and run it successfully. Looking into the relevance of these questions on February 21, 2023, IDP-NAHEP organized an interactive session on *Agripreneurship: Opportunities and Scope*. The session was led by Ms. Saswati Mukherjee, Manager Marketing & Communication, NIAM Agri-Business Incubator (NABI), CCSNIAM, Jaipur, Rajasthan. Ms. Saswati is an illustrious alumna of Pantnagar University; she did B.Sc. Agriculture and M.Sc. Horticulture from GBPUAT, Pantnagar.

Ms. Saswati emphasized on the incubation support being provided under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana-Remunerative Approaches for Agriculture and Allied sector Rejuvenation (RKVY-RAFTAAR) scheme. She also detailed on translating an innovative idea into an entrepreneurial project, designing project proposals and training cum internships for agripreneurship. This scheme is to empower youth through skill development, innovation and agripreneurship based Agri-Business models that attract them to Agriculture.



It also provide autonomy, flexibility to state to plan and execute schemes as per local farmers needs. The expert also guided and encouraged the students to create and submit their idea or proposal for Startup Agri-Business Incubation Programme (Seed Stage) and Agripreneurship Orientation Programme (Pre-Seed stage) being run by NIAM Agri-Business incubator. About 45 participants were present in the session and interacted with the expert and generated entrepreneurial insights from the guest lecture.

Dr. Amit Kesarwani, Project Scientist, IDP-NAHEP coordinated the session and motivated the students to either group-up in a team or individually come up with an innovative proposal as it can get incubations support and seed money through the incubation programme of NABI. He also expressed gratitude to the expert for sparing her valuable time to guide and inspire the young minds.

Brief Profile of Ms. Saswati Mukherjee

Ms. Saswati Mukherjee, Manager Marketing & Communication, NIAM Agri-Business Incubator (NABI) Centre of Excellence for Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Skill Development, Chaudhary Charan Singh National Institute of Agricultural Marketing (CCSNIAM), Pratap Nagar, Kota Road, Bambala, Jaipur, Rajasthan. Ms. Saswati Mukherjee has over 13 years of experience in the field of technology management, technology commercialization, entrepreneurship development, agri business incubation, and Agri input sales. She has facilitated technology-based business incubation, technical mentoring, coordinating with stakeholders for funding, mentoring, business growth, market studies, and commercialization of novel products developed by incubatees. She has experience in Business Development, New Market Development, segmentation, targeting and positioning of new products in new markets, Channel Management, Key Account Management, Client Service and Team Management.



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Entomology, Plant Pathology, Agronomy and soil Science, and Extension, Economics and Statics. A total of 62 hours of remedial classes were conducted for JRF/SRF aspirants of College of Agriculture. A group of 6 PG Scholars mentored the students on different modules of Agriculture.

For College of Community Science, the two modules included the subjects of Foods & Nutrition, Clothing and Textiles, Human Development, Family Resource Management and Home Science Extension. These

modules were designed by experts of community science. A total of 39 hours of remedial classes were conducted for JRF/SRF aspirants of College of Community Science. The remedial classes were supported by five meritorious university alumni to provide competitive insight of the discipline. Around 150 students got benefited by the 2 week remedial classes. The students found that whole remedial class series really very well designed and helpful to understand the elementary concepts.

The Main Events of March 2023

| S. No. | Event | Proposed Date | Venue | Nodal Unit | Convener |
|--------|---|--------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------|---|
| 1. | Faculty Exchange Programme: Visit to Illinois University, Urbana Champaign, USA | 02.03.2023 | USA | Project Team | Dr. S.K. Kashyap, College of Agriculture |
| 2. | Predictive Microbiology and Risk Assessment Approaches for Food Safety | 03.03.2023 | University Centre - NAHEP Building | Academic Team | Dr. S.K. Guru, College of Basic Science and Humanities |
| 3. | 5 Days workshop on Mantras for Professional Profile Development | 13.03.2023 to 17.03.2023 | University Centre - NAHEP Building | Academic Team | Dr. S.K. Guru, College of Basic Sciences and Humanities |
| 4. | Guest Lecture by Overseas Expert on Fashion and Sustainability | 17.03.2023 | Online | Academic Team | Dr. S.K. Guru, College of Basic Science and Humanities |
| 5. | Reflections for International Visit to Illinois University, Urbana Champaign, USA | 18.03.2023 | University Centre - NAHEP Building | Academic Team | Dr. S.K. Guru, College of Basic Science and Humanities |
| 6. | Exhibition on Blended Learning Ecosystem for Higher Education in Agriculture | 21.03.2023 to 23.03.2023 | NASC Complex, New Delhi | Project Team | Dr. S.K. Kashyap, College of Agriculture |
| 7. | Experiencing 360° Learning Through VR Headsets | 29.03.2023 | University Centre - NAHEP Building | Academic Team | Dr. S.K. Guru, College of Basic Science and Humanities |
| 8. | Guest lecture on Entrepreneurship Development: Journey from Agrigraduate to Agripreneur | 31.03.2023 | Online | Academic Team | Dr. S.K. Guru, College of Basic Science and Humanities |



Foreign Exchange Programme: Generating Life Building Experiences

Dr. S.K. Kashyap

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

The IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar considers the Foreign Exchange Programme as a significant avenue of generating life building experiences for students and faculty members. In order to strengthen the receptivity of students and faculty members, a mandatory, preparatory orientation training programme is organized wherein especially students are trained to make the most of the Foreign Exchange Programme of IDP-NAHEP. Agenda setting, networking skills, analysis and probing skills, observation skills, writing skills, cultural adaptation, language skills, travel advisories and overall conduct - these are the major aspects covered under the orientation programme. This makes the students conscious and responsible to utilize the exchange programme for best possible outcomes. Moreover, the students get confident to independently pursue the exchange programme with utmost sincerity. In absence of such a programme, students would go unprepared and would not strategize to reap maximum benefit out of this lifetime opportunity of undergoing a Foreign Exchange Programme during their undergraduate studies.



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