Fitting farewell to a Popular VC
Speakers hail contributions, humane approach of Dr.K.R.Viswambharan

Minister for Agriculture, K. P. Mohanan described Dr. K. R. Viswambharan as a model administrator who knew the pulse of common people. Inaugurating the public meeting held to bid farewell to the outgoing VC, the Minister said that K. R. Viswambharan possessed an outstanding ability to convert confrontations to conciliation. ‘He handled many volatile situations with aplomb. In KAU, he handled many volatile situations with aplomb. In KAU, he held to bid farewell to the outgoing VC, the Minister said that K. R. Viswambharan possessed an outstanding ability to convert confrontations to conciliation. ‘He handled many volatile situations with aplomb. In KAU, he handled many volatile situations with aplomb.

He knew the pulse of common people. K. R. Viswambharan himself was Vice-Chancellor of KAU. The Minister also presented a memento to Dr. Viswambharan on behalf of KAU Community. M.P.Vincent, MLA in his presidential address said that K.R. Viswambharan is the most popular VC, Kerala has ever seen. ‘Down to earth, very practical K. R. K. R. Viswambharan is the most popular VC, Kerala has ever seen. ‘Down to earth, very practical is the most popular VC, Kerala has ever seen. ‘Down to earth, very practical is the most popular VC, Kerala has ever seen.

Academic Performance
KAU Bags National Award Again

When Kerala Agricultural University Vice-Chancellor Dr. K. R. Viswambharan received the ICAR academic performance award from Union Minister for Agriculture on 17 Feb 12 it came as a double delight for him. The award cake itself was sweet but the icing on it is that Dr. Viswambharan himself was Vice-Chancellor on all five occasions, which is also a unique feat. ‘I am proud of the KAU community in general and students and teachers in particular. I wish KAU will continue with the good work and future also,’ streaming, Dr.Viswambharan said.

KAU Scientist, PoP 2011

The accomplishement was achieved through a KSCSTE funded research project entitled Developing Seedless watermelon hybrid in India. The accomplishment was achieved through a KSCSTE funded research project entitled Developing Seedless watermelon hybrid in India. The accomplishment was achieved through a KSCSTE funded research project entitled Developing Seedless watermelon hybrid in India. The accomplishment was achieved through a KSCSTE funded research project entitled Developing Seedless watermelon hybrid in India. The accomplishment was achieved through a KSCSTE funded research project entitled Developing Seedless watermelon hybrid in India. The accomplishment was achieved through a KSCSTE funded research project entitled Developing Seedless watermelon hybrid in India.

Budget Plans New faculties, Courses and Centres

KAU budget 2012-13 envisages establishment of new infrastructural facilities, modernisation of administration and strengthening of academic, research and extension activities. Presenting a 332.92 crore budget in the 113th meeting of KAU General Council held at College of Agriculture, Vellayani, Executive Committee member M.P.Vincent MLA thanked the Union Government for the special grant and State Government for enhancement of non-plan grant. The 2012-13 budget as the gateway to 12th plan, M.P.Vincent MLA highlighted the academic and research achievements of the university during the past five years. The budget envisages Affiliated Colleges, New PG programmes, agri polytechnics in all Regional stations and efforts to popularise farm mechanisation.

In the Research arena, focus will be on h-tech agriculture, protected cultivation and precision farming. Research Centres for vegetables and fruits are planned under Idukki package. Extension will be strengthened and activities of KVKs will be streamlined.

A media centre, Agri-super bazar technology museum, international training institute, Annual farmers’ science congress and mega agri fairs are also envisaged.

Students’ facilities will be upgraded, new central placement cell will come into being and convolution will be made an annual affair. Dr. K. R. Viswambharan, Vice-Chancellor, addressing his last GC, thanked one and all for the support extended to him during his tenure. He hoped that the University will achieve further heights in the years to come.
Academic Council Moots increase in stipends; New Department & PG Course in Seed technology

KAU Academic Council meeting held on March 13 decided to enhance grants and stipends to students and establish a new Department of Seed Technology at College of Horticulture (CoH), Vellanikkara, and a PG course in the discipline.

The annual research contingency fund for M.Sc. students will be enhanced from Rs 15,000 to Rs 40,000 and that for PhD scholar from Rs 35,000 to Rs 60,000. The fellowship for PG will be raised from Rs 700 to Rs 1,500 while PhD fellowship will be raised from Rs 800 to Rs 2,000 per month. UG students will henceforth receive Rs 8,000 per month for the RAWE programme. They were being paid just Rs 1,500 per month.

The meeting chaired by Vice-Chancellor was attended by Dr. P.B. Pushpalatha, Registrar; Dr.K.P. Anuvin, Director (Academic); Deans of faculties and Directors of Extension and Research and elected representatives of Teachers and Students.

In the wake of announcement of a 100 crore special grant by Union Government to KAU the University Community accorded a grand reception to P.C.Chacko MP in recognition of his invincible help.

“We are grateful to the Union Government and Agricultural Minister. We acknowledge and appreciate the help of P.C.Chacko MP who was instrumental in realizing this dream. Though KAU’s achievements have been consistent, this is the first time that the achievements are acknowledged”, said Dr. K.R. Viswambharan, Vice-Chancellor. M.P.Vincent MLA echoed similar feelings. “We all know that KAU has been ranked top in the country consecutively for the last five years. The research contributions has been recognized world over. The KVK VVK was judged the best among all the KVKs in the nation. Let me thank P.C.Chacko MP for the invincible help”, P.C. Chacko, in his address said that the grant, if utilized properly, will attract more support from the centre. “Prove your capabilities and pave way for more funding. KAU is one among the two Universities sanctioned such a grant this year. I’ll be with you and we together should be able to raise this University to the level of an international Centre of excellence” he said.

KAU & Oushadhi Plan Joint Ventures

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Farewell to Dr. K.R. Viswambharan

April 2012

PM. Francis and Press Club president Joy Manur spoke. Dr. PB. Pushpalatha, Registrar welcomed the gathering and Dr. PV. Balachandra, Director of Extension introduced the special guest, Dr. T. R. Gopalakrishnan, Director of Research; Dr. T. R. Pradeepkumar; Dr. S. R. Prabukumar, Zonal project Director; Zone VIII of ICAR presented the Zonal Perspectives and expectations. The Vice-Chancellor also released the revised edition of Inventory of Agricultural technologies in Kerala by handing over the first copy to Dr. M. J. Chandra Gowda, Principal Scientist, Zonal Project Director.

Leaders of Service Organisations and Labour Unions, B. V. Mathew, C. V. Paulose; Dr. P. K. Rajasekharan, Dr. T. Rajasekharan; Dr. S. V. John, Dean (Agri.); Dr. S. V. Naseema Beevi, Assistant Professor and other officers of the University also praised contributions of Dr. K. R. Viswambharan.

From Page 1

Seedless Watermelon

An International refresher course on Crop Management R 4 D in Agriculture

KAU and ICRISAT Sign MOU

International Refresher course on Crop Management

Pesticide Residue Research and Analytical Laboratory under the AHP on Pesticide Residues, College of Agriculture, Vellanayal of Kerala Agricultural University has been accredited ISO 17025 : 2005 accreditation by National Accredita-

ISO Accreditation for KAU Laboratory

the accreditation empowers Vellanayal lab to conduct pesticide residue tests and issue authentic test results with NABL logo. The lab is functioning under the leadership of Dr. S. Naseema Beevi is accredited for analysis of diverse samples for estimation of pesticide residues in fruits, vegetables, cereals, pulses, surface water and groundwater. Public can make use of the services of the laboratory at nominal charges.

From Page 1

To KAU Students

TO KAU STUDENTS

FELLOWSHIPS TO KAU STUDENTS

Dr. T. R. Gopalakrishnan, Director of Research; and Dr. B. T. Rayudu, Director General, ICRISAT signed the MoU in a function held at Hyderabad on March 2. Senior Officers of the two institutes participated.

The MoU envisages joint operations to explore and forecast the emergence of new crop pests and diseases, develop saline, flood, heat tolerant varieties through biotechnology tools, strengthen research in Social Sciences and provide access to the students and faculty at higher level of learning.

Minister for Agriculture in a function presided over by Jameela Prakasam, Chancellor; Dr. Siert Wiersma, CDI and V. K. Girija presided over by Jameela Prakasam, Chancellor; Dr. Siert Wiersma, CDI and V. K. Girija participated.

The course was funded by Nuffic and the course is to be managed by Central Government through UGC. While K. R. Viswambharan is studying the Efficiency of Linha phenolic compost in the suppression of soil borne plant pathogens, Jyothi Sara is researching on Biotic agents for the management of American Serpentine leaf minor Liniomyza trifolii.

Deeps James, another PhD scholar has been awarded DST Fellowship for research on Enhanced resistance to bacterial wilt in tomato by ento pathic microbial communities.

An International refresher course on Integrated Crop Management for Tropical Horticultural crops was hosted by KAU in association with Centre for Development Innovation (CDI), Wageningen University, Netherlands. The course held at Thrissur in October - November was inaugurated by K. R. Mohanan

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International Review of KVK Programmes

Dr. T. R. Gopalakrishnan, Director of Research, KAU; and Dr. B. T. Rayudu, Associate Professor of Research, KAU also participated.

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Minister for Agriculture K.P. Mohanan hailed the Academic Excellence achieved by Kerala Agricultural University, which has helped it to secure first position among State Agricultural Universities and ICAR institutes in India for five consecutive years.

He was speaking after launching new programmes and facilities in KAU on Friday, February 17. Minister inaugurated the reintro-duced Diploma Course in Agriculture at RARS, Pattambi, a new HRD Centre and health club at CTI, Mannuthy, and two new ERP tools developed indigenously by KAU IT Personnel.

Inaugurating the HRD Centre attached to CTI, Mannuthy, the Minister stressed the need of appropriate HRD programmes and the relevance of such programmes in enhancing efficiency of administra-
tion, Education and Research.

‘Agriculture is the most healthy culture in the world. Earlier genera-
tions were aware of this and had inherent knowledge about practice of HRD options suitable to each individual. I am happy that scientifically organized HRD tools are given importance in KAU; he said.

Minister also gave a prop-
posal for establishing an interna-
tional training institute at Mannuthy from M.P.Vincent MLA, member of KAU EC. The first crop of Chinese savoy cabbage, a variety suited for salads cultivated in Kerala for the first time was presented to Minister by Dr. U. Jakumaran, Prof & Head, ARS, Mannuthy.

KAU is the first University in India to develop a complete ERP package using indigenous resources. The two new ERP tools, UPAT (University Pension Administration System) and USIST (University Sales Information System), launched by the Minister denotes another sig-
nificant leap in e-governance in KAU.

The functions were attended by M.P.Vincent MLA; C.P.Mohammed MLA; T.N.Kandamuthan, MLA; C.P. Muhammed, MLA; T.S.Majeed, Comptroller; Dr. I. Abraham, Assoc. Dean, CoF; Dr. A. Augustine, Assoc. Directors of Research; Dr. T.R. Gopalakrishnan, Dir. of Research; Dr. P.P. Pushpalatha, Registrar; Dr. V.P. Balachandran, Director of Extension. Dr. M.V. Jaison congratulated Sajeena on the achievement.

KAU LAUNCHES BAGS PRIZE IN GLOBAL MEET

S. Sajeena of Kerala Agricultural University (KAU) won the second prize in poster presentation in the Global Conference on Women in Agriculture (GCWA) held at New Delhi from March 13 - 15. She is the only Indian in the list of prize winners. The first prize was won by Philippines and third by Sri Lanka.

A Soil scientist with Malappuram Krishi Vigyan Kendra of KAU, Sajeena received the prize from President of India Pratibha Patil on 15th March 2012.

Her presentation on Empowerment of rural women through rice mechanization in Malappuram district of Kerala was ranked in top three from among 300 entries from different countries including 190 presentations from India. Minister for Agriculture K.P. Mohanan, KAU Vice-Chancellor; Dr. K.R. Viswambharan, Registrar; Dr. P.P. Pushpalatha and Director of Extension Dr. P.V. Balachandran congratulated Sajeena on the achievement.

GUIDE TO MODERNIZATION MOVES

Agricultural Minister inaugurates HRD Centre at CTI, Mannuthy

District Panchayat president; Dr. P.B. Pushpalatha, Registrar; Dr. P.V. Balachandran, Director of Extension; T.S. Majeed, Comptroller; Dr. I. Johnkutty, Dr. V.K. Raju and Dr. A. Augustine, Assoc. Directors of Research; Dr. Jey Mathew, Jacob Thundiyil, Roy Varghese and M. Viswanathan Nair.

A Bi-lingual Agro-tech portal has been launched by KAU. The portal, a shelf of Agricultural Knowledge Information Systems designed by the Centre for e-learning, was launched by Dr. K.R. Viswambharan, Vice-

The Vice-Chancellor described the portal as an agricultural information gateway to convert knowledge to do how.

It includes ICT enabled services such as ‘Krishi jaalakam, an illustrated e-window for farmers, easy to use expert systems on crop nutrient management, Crop protection and other cyber extension packages. The portal is available in Malayalam and English versions.

The functions were attended by M.P. Vincent MLA; T.N.Kandamuthan, MLA; C.P. Muhammed, MLA; T.S. Majeed, Comptroller; Sheela Mohammed, HoD, Dept. of Extn; Dr. I. Abraham, Assoc. Dean, CoF; Dr. A. Augustine, DR; Dr. K.R. Viswambharan, Prof & Head, ARS; Dr. P.V. Balachandran, HoD, Dept. of Extn; Dr. P. Ahmed, Director, CEC; Sheila Mohammed, PAO and Dr. Zaker Hussain spoke.

The Package of Practices (crops) 2011 edition was released by K.P. Mohanan, Minister for Agriculture in a simple function held at KAU HQ on 26 March 2012.

While handing over the first copy of new-
edition to Dr. K.R. Viswambharan, Vice-Chancel-
lor, the Minister congratulated the Extension wing and Compilation team for having brought out the compendium in an attractive manner.

K.R. Jyothilal IAS, Secretary to Govt. (Agricul-
ture); Dr. P.B. Pushpalatha, Registrar; Dr. V.P. Balachandran, Director of Extension; Dr. T.R. Gopalakrishnan, Director of Research; Dr. Sverup John, Dean (Agri); T.S. Majeed, Comptroller; Dr. Jimmy Thomas, Professor & Head, Communication Centre; Dr. Estelites, Coordi-
nator, and members of compilation team participated.

The new edition of this compendium of agricultural practices includes the details of new varieties of paddy, coconut, vegetables and medicinal plants released by the University. While excluding banned chemicals the package has incorporated non hazardous substitutes.

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