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From the Desk of the Vice-Chancellor



The animal husbandry sector is continually contributing in immense ways towards building a common remedial response to the pandemic fallout. Animal Health specialists have shown their unflinching commitment to support the work of human health authorities. Veterinary laboratories have used their experience and expertise, thereby supporting the diagnostic capacity of human health services, vindicating one health concepts.

Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Ludhiana has made a significant contribution to the 'Mission Fateh' of the Government of Punjab in mitigating COVID-19 disease. In this pursuit, the scientific staff of the University rendered services in the COVID-19 testing laboratories of the Government hospitals at Amritsar and Patiala. During August 2020, the 'Viral Testing Laboratory' for testing of COVID-19, dedicated to the people of the Punjab State was established in the University premises. With the establishment of this laboratory, the contribution being made by GADVASU to 'One Health' got strengthened for making the community safe. I express gratitude towards the Government of Punjab for reposing confidence in the capabilities of the University as one of the centres for COVID-19 testing and assure the full cooperation from the University in combating this infectious disease(s).

Veterinary Services contribute to address critical needs of food security and safety, intrinsically linked to sound animal production systems. No evidence, to date, has shown that animals are playing a significant role in spreading COVID-19 disease. I want to stress that COVID-19 virus is not found in chicken or pork products and that avian and porcine coronavirus do not infect or cause disease in populace.

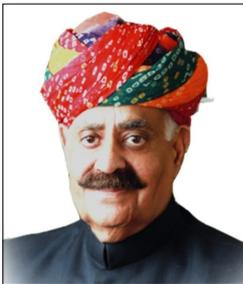
Though the COVID-19 situation has halted the various endeavours temporarily, GADVASU has continued teaching-learning, research and extension services in the technocratic mode. The phenomenal advancements in Information Technology have enabled the faculty members to reach out to the students at their places in a realistic manner. Similarly, the University has been successful in dissemination of knowledge to the livestock farmers through webinars, advisories and other online events. This strengthens the trust of farmers of the state in the University further, as the University expert advice has been available at their door-steps even during tough times caused by COVID-19 pandemic. I hope the academic hustle-bustle will be back on University campus.

I congratulate the newly appointed Officers of the University and will work in a coordinated way for ascendancy of the University and making it an epitome of success.

Inderjeet Singh
(Vice-Chancellor)

Hon'ble Governor of Punjab appreciated the work of GADVASU

Sh. V. P. Singh Badnore, the Hon'ble Governor of Punjab appreciated the role of GADVASU on his Twitter account "I congratulate & commend the faculty of Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Ludhiana for setting up first ever Dog Blood Bank in Northern India where blood, platelets, plasma are offered to ailing or injured dogs." Sh. Badnore has also tagged Mrs. Maneka Gandhi in his tweet.



The University reciprocated and thanked the Hon'ble Governor and Chancellor of the University through its Twitter account viz. "Dr. Inderjeet Singh, Vice Chancellor of GADVASU and the entire faculty is grateful to the Governor of Punjab to acknowledge the work of institute. We promise to continue to strive for providing the world class facilities to livestock owners and pet lovers for mitigation of problems."

Dr. Inderjeet Singh, Vice-Chancellor said that such moral booster will enable us to escalate the University efficiency manifold to meet the needs and expectations of public.

Hon'ble Cabinet Minister(s) Inaugurated the 'COVID-19 Viral Testing Laboratory'

Sh. O.P. Soni, Cabinet Minister, Medical Education and Research, and Sh. Bharat Bhushan Ashu, Cabinet Minister, Food, Civil Supplies and Consumers Affairs inaugurated the 'COVID-19 Viral Testing Laboratory' at GADVASU on 10th August 2020 and dedicated it to the citizens of Punjab State. Dr. J P S Gill, Director of Research and Nodal Officer of the Viral Testing Laboratory informed that after getting the nod of Indian Council of Medical Research, samples are being tested in the laboratory.

Sh. O.P. Soni said that with opening of the Viral Testing Laboratory at GADVASU along with three other laboratories, the Government will be able to increase the testing capacity to samples 4000 per day. Sh. Bharat Bhushan Ashu, Cabinet Minister said that it is a matter of privilege for Ludhiana district to have this laboratory in Ludhiana district. Describing the event as spirited moment for the University, Dr. Inderjeet Singh, Vice-Chancellor, GADVASU ap-

prised that the Viral Testing Laboratory will expedite testing of COVID-19, as that is need of the hour for timely management of the disease. He further expressed his gratitude towards Chief Minister, concerned ministers, officials, Vice-Chancellor, Baba Farid University of Health Sciences and all the Medical and Veterinary professionals for their untiring contribution(s) leading to the establishment of the laboratory. He further added that the services of the scientists and employees of the Viral Testing Laboratory will always be remembered as a great service to the nation.



Inauguration of COVID-19 Viral Testing Laboratory

The facilities, products, publications and technologies developed by the University were showcased in an impressive exhibition for the dignitaries and other guests.



Sh. Bharat Bhushan Ashu, Cabinet Minister at GADVASU Exhibition

New Officers of the University appointed

GADVASU appointed eleven new Officers.

Dr. Harmanjit Singh Banga, an eminent Veterinary Pathologist has been appointed as the Registrar. Earlier, he served as Professor-cum-Head, Veterinary Pathology, University Librarian and the Dean, College of Veterinary Science, Rampura Phul (Bathinda). He is the founder Director of Centre of Advanced Faculty Training (CAFT) as it was during his tenure as Head, that the department bagged this coveted Centre. Dr. Banga is the recipient of Prestigious Canadian Commonwealth Scholarship for pursuing his Ph.D. at the University of Guelph, Ontario, Canada. He is also the recipient of Dr. A. S. Atwal Best PG student of University from amongst all 5 constituent colleges of University Gold Medal, Jawaharlal Nehru Trust Award, besides many best paper awards, etc. He developed an e-Learning portal “e-Harnirdesh” making GADVASU the first veterinary university in the country to implement Learning Management System. He developed Digital Research Repository of GADVASU and several educational videos which are accessible from YouTube.



Dr. J.P.S. Gill, appointed as the Director Research for the second term, is a renowned academician and a leading researcher for the last 30 years and having 11 years of administrative experience. He is also the Adjunct Professor at University of Saskatchewan (Canada).



Dr. Gill has vast research experience of managing 38 research projects as Principal Investigator (PI) & Co-PI and has successfully developed nine International Collaborations and Research Proposals. Dr. Gill is FAO nominated expert for Joint FAO/WHO expert meetings on Foodborne Antimicrobial resistance. He is the member to High Powered Committee of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Punjab to develop road map to boost the dairy sector in state. Dr. Gill also acted as an expert member to develop Farmer Policy for Sustainable Growth of Livestock Production and Policy for Doubling Farmers Income by 2022 in livestock sector. He is also a member of four scientific panels of Food Safety and Standards Authority of India.

Dr. Parkash Singh Brar has been appointed as the Director of Extension Education. Earlier, he served the University as Dean, College of Veterinary Science and Director Livestock Farms. He won India's first ever twin project in collaboration with University of Calgary in Veterinary Education funded by World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) apart from 23 other research projects funded by national and international agencies. His priority area remains to work in close collaboration with the departments to deliver technologies developed by the University to end users.



Dr. Satyavan Rampal was appointed as the Director Students' Welfare-cum-Estate Officer (DSW-cum-EO) for the second term. He established Solar Panel System for renewable energy and extensive plantation and earned the name “Green Man” of University. New buildings of College of Dairy Science and Technology, College of Animal Biotechnology, School of Public Health and Girls Hostel has been constructed during his tenure. He strengthened and uplifted sports facilities in various hostels.



Dr. Sarvpreet Singh Ghuman joined as Dean, College of Veterinary Science, Ludhiana. Earlier, he served the University as Head of the University Hospital Complex. He has 25 year experience in teaching, research and extension. He earned Ph.D. degree in Animal Reproduction from University of Liverpool, United Kingdom under the Commonwealth Scholarship. He has been associated with 21 research projects. His research work was recognized with nine best paper awards by the National Society on Animal Reproduction, Fellowship of the Society in 2018 and 27 young scientist awards during various conferences. He has 12 review papers, 56 international, 134 national scientific publications, 74 invited papers, 53 books, monographs, manuals and 133 popular articles to his credit.



Dr. Manish Kumar Chatli joined as the Dean, College of Veterinary Science, Rampura Phul. He had been head of the Department of Livestock Products Technology from last 8 years. He has undergone advance training in Meat Proteomics at University of Kentucky, Lexington. Dr. Chatli established various laboratories and pilot processing units at the University with a mobilization of funds accounting more than 7 crores and successfully handled 14 research projects as Principal Investigator. He has transferred 19 technologies to entrepreneurs and established Poultry Processing Plant as Revenue generation Model under Public Private Partnership Model. He has 2 patents, 8 books, 20 book chapters, 46 manuals/compendiums/research reports and more than 158 research publications to his credit.



Dr. Yashpal Singh Malik, an ICAR-National Fellow at Indian Veterinary Research Institute (IVRI), Izatnagar, India, has been appointed as the Dean, College of Animal Biotechnology. A graduate from CCS Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar, Dr. Malik is having rich experience in Veterinary Microbiology and Biotechnology. He did his post doctorate in Molecular Virology at University of Minnesota, United States and acquired advanced trainings in virology at University of Ottawa, Canada and Wuhan Institute of Virology, China. A recipient of the prestigious ICAR Jawaharlal Nehru Award Dr. Malik, developed several technologies and diagnostic kits and has two National patents to his credit. He has authored 7 books and published around 227 scientific research articles.



Dr. Ramneek joined as the Dean, College of Dairy Science and Technology. Earlier he served as Director, College of Animal Biotechnology. He received his Ph.D. from the Lincoln University, Christchurch, New Zealand under NZODA Fellowship. He also won Lincoln University Fund of Excellence for Research. He has more than 25 years of experience in teaching and research and has more than 100 research publications to his credit. Dr. Ramneek has been conferred with number of Best Research presentation awards by professional scientific societies in India and Abroad.



Dr. Meera D. Ansal joined as the Dean of College of Fisheries. Under ICAR's prestigious Niche Area of Excellence Project, she has played an instrumental role in development of aquaculture in salt affected waste lands of south west districts of the State and conferred with 'Best Success Story' award by the Indian Ecological Society. With 11 research projects and more than 200 publications Dr. Meera is honoured with 'Honorary Fellowship' of the Indian Ecological Society.



Dr. Anil Kumar Arora has been appointed as the Controller of Examinations. He is recipient of Commonwealth post-doctoral fellowship at the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies, Edinburgh, United Kingdom. He has been instrumental in establishing the molecular biology laboratory in the Department of Microbiology. He was the Principal Investigator (PI) of the ICAR sponsored All India Network Program on Haemorrhagic Septicaemia for more than 10 years and had been the Co-Principal Investigator (Co-PI) in more than 17 research projects. Currently, he is leading a prestigious ICAR Niche Area of excellence programme in Antimicrobial resistance. He has more than 100 publications to his credit.



Dr. Suresh Kumar Sharma has joined as University Librarian. He was earlier Professor-cum-Head, Department of Veterinary Pharmacology and Toxicology. He has 27 years of experience in teaching, research and extension and has several national and international publications to his credit. He has been PI/Co-PI of different research projects funded by various funding agencies. Presently he is General Secretary of the Indian Society of Veterinary Pharmacology and Toxicology. He had been instrumental for establishment of 'Collaborative Research Centre for Veterinary Ayurveda' at GADVASU, first of its kind in India, a setup of Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences, Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India.



Dr. Baljit Singh, a member of the BoM of the University selected as Vice-President of USask

Dr. Baljit Singh, member, Board of Management of GADVASU has been selected for the coveted post as Vice-President (Research) University of Saskatchewan (USask), Canada. He will join USask on February 01, 2021. Presently, he is working as Dean faculty of Veterinary Medicine University of Calgary, Canada. Dr. Baljit is a highly accomplished researcher, educator and administrator in veterinary medicine with expertise on cell and molecular biology of lung inflammation.



Dr. Inderjeet Singh, Vice-Chancellor, GADVASU feeling elated said that an alumnus of College of Veterinary Science, Dr Baljit's elevation as Vice-President (Research) USask is a matter of Pride for the University. He shared that GADVASU is doing work on three major collaborative projects with Dr. Baljit and hoped that as doyen of research at USask, Dr. Baljit will develop more mutual research and teaching collaborations. He said that Dr. Baljit is a pillar of light and symbol of motivation for young class of researchers and leading veterinarians.

Corona Warrior Scientists honoured

Dr. Inderjeet Singh, Vice-Chancellor applauded and honoured the ten Corona warrior scientists of the University, viz. Drs. Rajnish Sharma, Mudit Chandra, Jaspreet Singh Arora, Niraj Kumar Singh, Harsh Panwar, Omar Khaleel, Mohan Jairath, Deepali, Jaspreet Kaur and Ms. Astha for the services rendered by them for COVID-19 testing in diagnostic laboratories of Govt. Medical College(s), Patiala and Amritsar from 19th April to 3rd of July 2020.

Celebration of Independence Day

GADVASU celebrated the 74th Independence Day with great enthusiasm. Dr. Inderjeet Singh, Vice-Chancellor unfurled the National Flag in the University premises and paid rich tributes to all those who fought for country's freedom. In his address, Dr. Singh said that Animal Husbandry is the vital tool of agricultural Gross Domestic Product (GDP) vis-a-vis instrumental to the national economy. He appreciated the scientific community and

employees of GADVASU to put their best for strengthening of the University. Dr. Singh further, emphasized on supporting the University graduates to setup their own ventures to be entrepreneur(s) rather than job seeker(s). Students presented an impressive patriotic medley. The Officers of the University, Heads of Departments, faculty and staff attended the celebration.



Independence Day Celebration

GADVASU signed pact with ICAR-CIPHET

GADVASU has signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Indian Council of Agricultural Research-Central Institute of Post-Harvest and Engineering Technology (CIPHET), Ludhiana for collaboration in teaching, research and extension activities for the welfare of livestock farmers of Punjab state. The MOU was signed by Dr. J.P.S. Gill, Director Research, GADVASU and Dr. R. K. Singh, Director, CIPHET in the presence of Dr. Inderjeet Singh, Vice-Chancellor, GADVASU and other officers of the university and scientists of CIPHET.



Signing of MoU with CIPHET

Dr. Inderjeet Singh highlighted the importance of engineering in the livestock sector to improve the automation in dairy and poultry farms and asserted the engineers to develop the low-cost buffalo milking machine and mechanical scrappers for cleaning

in the dairy farms. Dr. R K Singh ensured complete cooperation in this regard and asserted that both the institutes will start collaborative research project on the pertinent issues.

Tree Plantation Drive organized in the University Campus

Landscaping wing of GADVASU organized campus wide 'Tree Plantation Drive' dedicated to the 400th birth anniversary of Shri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji. Dr. Inderjeet Singh, Vice Chancellor inaugurated the plantation drive and also advised for carrying out plantation work in all the Krishi Vigyan Kendra(s) and off-campus constituent college(s) of University too. Different types of plants viz. trees, fruit trees, ornamental plants, and shrubs were planted during the drive.



Tree Plantation Drive

Dr. Satyavan Rampal, Director Students' Welfare-cum-Estate Officer extended his gratitude towards all the Officers, faculty and staff members for participation in plantation drive and congratulated landscape wing for organizing of plantation drive in university campus.

New Diploma, Certificate and Short courses introduced

To uplift the skills and for enhancement of micro-specialization(s) amongst working veterinarians and students of different streams, from the academic session 2020-21, GADVASU started nine diploma courses, eight certificate courses and two short courses. The diploma(s) will be of one year duration and the certificate course(s) and short courses will be of six months and six weeks duration, each. These courses will open new vistas for professionals of different science streams.

Training(s)/Webinar(s)

Training on Artificial Insemination in Pigs

Directorate of Extension Education organised a training course on Artificial Insemination (AI) in Pigs for Pig farmers. The participants were provided practical knowledge and hands on training through lectures and demonstrations. Dr Inderjeet Singh, Vice-Chancellor, GADVASU congratulated the organising team for successful completion of the training programme. Dr. Singh further added that the farmers of Punjab are rearing Large White Yorkshire breed from last four decades and it is high time to introduce new germplasm in livestock. Punjab Animal Husbandry Department has brought exotic germplasm viz. Landrace, Hampshire and Large White Yorkshire from United Kingdom and the semen of these breeds will be made available to farmers.



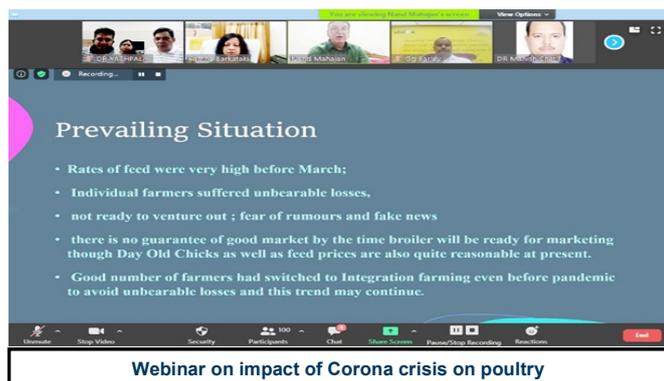
Training Course on Artificial Insemination in Pigs

National Webinar on "Entrepreneurship in Goat Farming for Young Graduates"

Department of Livestock Production Management, College of Veterinary Science organized a National Webinar on Industry-Academia-Students interface under the theme "Entrepreneurship in Goat Farming for Young Graduates" under the aegis of Institutional Development Plan (IDP) of National Agricultural Higher Education Project. Expert(s) elaborated in detail the management of goat farms, reproductive problems, entrepreneurship opportunities for selling quality germplasm, strategies of breeding, selection in important indigenous goat breeds, e-commerce model for marketing of goats and goat products. Mr. Rahul Kasnia, an MBA, shared his stories of transition to a successful goat entrepreneurs after getting training from GADVASU, leading to winning prestigious Chief Minister's Progressive goat farmer (GADVASU) and Breed Saviour Awards.

Webinar on “Impact of Corona crisis on poultry”

Department of Livestock Production Management, College of Veterinary Science organized a National Webinar on Industry-Academia-Students interface under the theme, “Global Corona Crisis: Impact and Strategic measures to uplift Poultry Industry”, under the aegis of NAHEP-ICAR, Institutional Development Plan (IDP) operational in GADVASU.



Prevailing Situation

- Rates of feed were very high before March;
- Individual farmers suffered unbearable losses,
- not ready to venture out ; fear of rumours and fake news
- there is no guarantee of good market by the time broiler will be ready for marketing though Day Old Chicks as well as feed prices are also quite reasonable at present.
- Good number of farmers had switched to Integration farming even before pandemic to avoid unbearable losses and this trend may continue.

Webinar on impact of Corona crisis on poultry

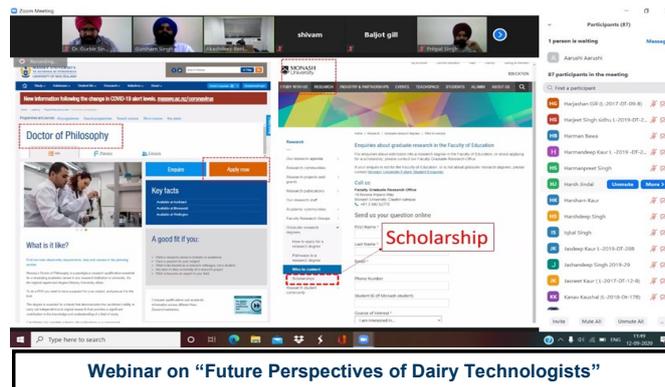
Expert(s) delivered talk(s) on the need of biosecurity of farms, restriction of use of antibiotics, hormones in the poultry birds, socio-economic impact of corona virus on poultry industry, management strategies to make poultry farming capable to withstand this global crisis, importance of precision poultry nutrition to reduce the cost of production and importance of backyard farming for the livelihood of the down trodden rural population.

National Webinar on “Pre-Mid-Post Covid-19 Challenges of Dairy Farmers/ Entrepreneurs”

College of Dairy Science and Technology organized two days National Webinar on ‘Pre-Mid-Post Covid-19 Challenges of Dairy Farmers/ Entrepreneurs’ under RKVY Project entitled “Enhancing Profitability of Farmers through Value Addition and Entrepreneurship Development.” Expert(s) delivered interactive talk(s) on employment opportunities and enhancing the farmers’ income through value addition of traditional and fermented dairy products, opportunities for value addition to ice cream and frozen desserts, strategies to overcome recent challenges in dairy animal management, women empowerment strategies in dairying, registration/ licensing need for the dairy entrepreneurs, establishment and management of mini dairy processing unit.

International Webinar on “Future Perspectives of Dairy Technologists”

The Alumni Association, College of Dairy Science and Technology (CODST) organized an interactive international webinar on “Future Perspectives of Dairy Technologists” to apprise the dairy technology students with the various academic and employment opportunities available in India as well as abroad.



Webinar on “Future Perspectives of Dairy Technologists”

Innovative Fish Farmers Meet on virtual platform

College of Fisheries organized an online meeting of ‘Innovative Fish Farmers Association’, Punjab (IFFA) amidst COVID-19 pandemic, to collect feedback on lockdown setback on fish farming. Strategic resilience action plan to mitigate the anticipated production losses during the current year was also discussed. Expert(s) delivered lectures on “Judicious Use of Probiotics and its Benefit in Aquaculture” and “Care of Fish during Monsoon”. The farmers were also apprised to re-cycle farm waste into aquaculture through vermicomposting for added economic benefits. Queries of farmers were addressed through an interactive session of farmers-experts.



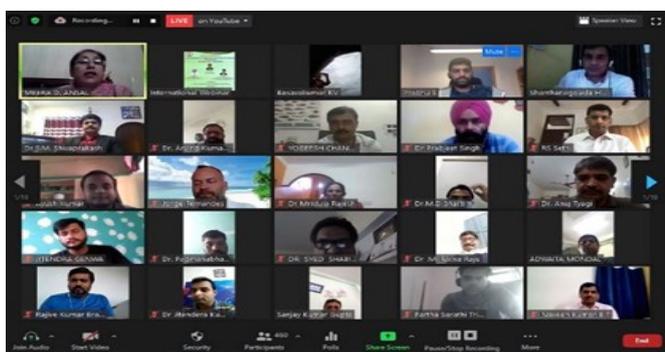
INNOVATIVE FISH FARMERS ASSOCIATION (IFFA)
Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Science University, College of Fisheries
(GADVASU) LUDHIANA 141 004 (PUNJAB)

Innovative Fish Farmers Meet

Expressing sincere concerns for the farming community, Dr. Kulbir Singh Sandhu informed that the University has left no stone unturned in continuing its academic and extension activities during COVID lock down period and is still exploring every possible solution to serve the farmers of the state with the required technical assistance and guidance.

International Webinar on “Epigenetics and Vaccine Development in Aquaculture”

College of Fisheries organized an international webinar on ‘Current Advances in Epigenetics and Vaccine Development in Aquaculture’ in collaboration with College of Animal Biotechnology to strengthen the overseas collaboration with eminent scientists, so as to promote research in the said areas for sustainable development of aquaculture sector. With a total of 1528 registrations from across globe, 500 participants attended the webinar, while others joined live streaming on YouTube. In addition to the GADVASU scientists, experts(s) from Nord University, Norway, Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research, Kuwait, Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific (NACA), Bangkok and different states of India also presented their work and shared their opinion and experiences. Quiz competition was also conducted between technical sessions to adjudge the best active participation awards. Congratulating the organizers for attracting a prodigious international audience in the said webinar, Dr. J.P.S. Gill, Director of Research and Dr. K.S. Sandhu impressed to brace international and national ties for capacity building for up scaling research and development programmes to evolve innovative organic solutions for aquaculture development at regional, national and global levels.



Webinar on “Epigenetics and Vaccine Development in Aquaculture”

Celebration of National Fish Farmer’s Day

College of Fisheries, GADVASU celebrated the ‘National Fish Farmers’ Day’ on 10th July, 2020 in the online mode. Experts addressed the farmers to apprise them of innovative interventions for sustainable development of aquaculture sector and role of academia – farmer linkages in technology transfer and capacity building. Dr. Hira Lal Chaudhry’s gift of Induced breeding technology to ‘Blue Revolution’ in India was acknowledged through encomium address by all the speakers.

An online poetry and poster competition on the theme “Gratitudinal Tribute to the Fish Farmers of the Nation” was also held. Krishi Vigyan Kendras of the University at Barnala and Booh (Tarn Taran) also observed the National Fish Farmers’ Day.

Recognising unmatched hardships and perseverance of the farming community, Dr. Kulbir Singh Sandhu applauded the role of fish farmers in providing healthy nutrition to the human population.

Congratulating the fish farmers on National Fish Farmers Day, Dr. Inderjeet Singh, Vice Chancellor, GADVASU assured the continued hand holding to the farming community for sustainable development of the fisheries, animal husbandry and dairy sectors of the State, through innovative technological interventions.



National Fish Farmer’s Day Celebrations

Advisories for farmers/ entrepreneurs/ animal lovers

Poultry or other animal origin products has no role in transmission of COVID-19 to humans

Endorsing the notifications issued by the World Animal Health Organization (OIE), Indian Meat Science Association and Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (GoI), Dr. Inderjeet Singh, Vice-Chancellor, Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Ludhiana said that poultry has no role in transmission of COVID-19 to humans. Dr. Singh revealed that scientific findings have clearly indicated that the *Coronavirus* is known to spread through human to human interactions. The Vice-Chancellor emphasized that the farm workers, milkers, milk/meat handlers, butchers, dairy and meat industry personnel should be screened regularly and anyone showing symptoms of fever, cough, nausea, diarrhoea and difficult breathing should not be allowed to enter the farm and meat/dairy industry premises, as the infected person(s) may cause secondary surface contamination of the product(s).



Dr. Singh further advised dairy stakeholders that all the workers should be instructed to follow the general hygiene practices to prevent the spread of disease. He advised the proper intake of protein rich immunity booster food products to increase the strength to fight against the disease.

Vice-Chancellor urged general public to stop forwarding fake videos without ascertaining the facts. Undue fear among people adversely affects the demand of eggs and poultry meat or other products, and consumers will be deprived of good affordable source of protein. He further said that all the food products including milk, meat and poultry products should be consumed after proper cooking only, so that all the infectious agents including viruses may get killed. Dr. Singh advised to follow the general principles of food hygiene and proper cooking as per suggestions of WHO/OIE.

Proper care of Poultry in summer

Summer is a challenging season to poultry farming. Poultry birds do not have sweat glands and have thick cover of feathers. During summer

months the birds consume less feed and more water due to which their growth rate, egg production, egg shell quality and hatchability are all adversely affected and mortality is high. Disease incidence in the flocks also increases because of wet litter, immune-suppression, vaccination failures and contamination of drinking water.

GADVASU expert(s) issued advisory that there should be a grass cover on the grounds surrounding the poultry house which will reduce the reflection of sunlight into the house. Vegetation should be kept trimmed to avoid blocking of air movement and to help in reducing rodent problems. Shady trees should be located where they do not restrict air movement. Further, the poultry farmers were advised to keep a reliable, clean, cool source of water available to help the birds cope with high temperatures. As the birds excrete electrolytes during periods of heat stress, electrolytes can be added to the drinking water to replace those that are lost and to stimulate water consumption. The number of waterers and frequency of watering should be increased in summer months. In case of nipple drinkers, frequent check of nipples should be monitored.



Save dairy animals from hyperthermia

Expert(s) of the Veterinary Medicine advised farmers to provide ample quantity of water to animals, keep them away from direct sunlight in well ventilated places and give bath to dairy animals 2-3 times a day, to safeguard them from hyperthermia (Heat intolerance syndrome) during summer season. Farmers were further advised to feed animals during early morning and evening, viz. the cooler periods of the day. Often the farmers treat animals suffering from hyperthermia with antibiotics and

other drugs (diminazine or buparvacone), which is absolutely not required unless the tick related disease(s) have been confirmed by blood tests. Experts advised avoiding of self-medication and suggested that if the high fever persists or there is marked loss of appetite and milk yield, farmers should get the blood of animal examined at GADVASU for tick borne diseases or other infections. Self-medication should be avoided by farmers. Contact only qualified Veterinarian for the treatment.

A study conducted by experts of GADVASU, on dairy animals showed that subcutaneous administration of 5 ml iodized oil (containing 750 mg of elemental iodine) for three consecutive days was helpful in management of hyperthermia and more than 95 per cent of the hyperthermic dairy animals recovered with this therapeutic regimen and no relapse was recorded during the post treatment period of two months.

Advisory to Dairy Farmers during hot, humid and rainy season

In view of the reports of illness with symptoms of respiratory distress and fever at various dairy farms in Punjab, due to the prevailing hot and humid climatic conditions favourable for the growth of microorganisms resulting in disease outbreaks in animals, scientists of GADVASU advised the dairy farmers to vaccinate the livestock against HS and FMD oil adjuvant vaccine for long term immunity preferably with combined vaccine. Farmers were also advised to provide fresh fodder and concentrate depending upon the production, age and reproductive condition of bovines as advised by experts of the University from time to time. Experts also advised farmers to keep animals at comfortable distance in airy and ventilated sheds. Farmers should check that mould infested feed and fodder is not fed to livestock as it causes immediate high mortality. If urea was applied in fodder field then farmers were advised not to use this fodder minimum one week for animal consumption.

Cool environment for good health of dogs is necessary in the summer

During hot weather, the most common problems of dogs are heat stroke and dehydration. Any dog exercising on a hot, humid day, even with plenty of

water can become overheated. It is more common with black coloured dogs or with long hair coat pets. One of the common situations of dogs becoming sick is because they are left in car in hot summer days. Even if the weather outside is not extremely hot, the temperature inside of the car acts like an oven. Temperatures can rise to dangerously high levels in a matter of minutes, even with partially open windows.

The University expert(s) advised taking dog for walk during cool hours of the day, not to leave dog alone in car, avoiding of vigorous exercise on warm days, opting for shady areas outside, keeping fresh cool water available in a shady place at all times, etc. for good health of dogs in summer season. The dog owners were also advised to consult veterinarian(s) to keep dogs free from parasites, as summer and rainy season is congenial for the growth and activity of external parasites.

Storage of fodder and feed in proper manner during Monsoon

If the feeds or feed ingredients become wet because of leakage of rain water from broken roof, these can develop moulds, which in turn can become a probable cause of serious diseases to animals leading to morbidity and mortality. In view of this, GADVASU expert(s) advised that one should keep or store the feeds in a dry place and the feed stores should be well ventilated. Further, the farmers were advised to store only that quantity of feed which can be utilized within a short period. Clumpy feeds should not be used for feeding livestock. Aflatoxin levels should be evaluated from time to time and such facilities can be availed from the Feed Analytical Laboratory of Department of Animal Nutrition, GADVASU.



Recommendations for Carp seed stocking in the nursery ponds

University expert(s) advised fish farmers that for achieving the maximum survival of seed in the nursery ponds, the fish farmers must procure quality seed from a reliable hatchery only and while lifting seed from the hatchery, it must be ensured that the seed has been properly conditioned (defecated) before packaging, as fecal matter from improperly conditioned seed pollutes the water of the seed bag and cause mortality during transportation. Dr. Meera D Ansal further advised farmers to transport the seed during early morning or late evening hours only to prevent the mortality due to thermal stress or shock during stocking. Expert(s) also advised to stock the seed in the ponds only after proper acclimatization. For stocking 1 acre production pond next year, it is recommended to stock 20,000 - 25,000 spawn or 6,000 - 8,000 fry in one kanal (500m²) nursery pond, so as to raise 4,500 - 6,000 fingerlings.

Protection of fish pond from stock loss during monsoons

Expert(s) from the College of Fisheries, GADVASU issued advisory for fish farmers to manage their ponds smartly to avert any unforeseen damage due to heavy rains. Dr. Meera D. Ansal said that first of all, farmers shall assure that pond dykes are strong enough to withstand erosion during rainfall and this can be achieved by planting grass on the dykes. Erosion adds muddiness to water affecting its productivity due to reduced sunlight penetration leading to oxygen depletion. In case water becomes muddy, application of limestone in accordance to water pH is recommended. Secondly, 1 to 1 ½ feet free board over water surface is required to accommodate the rain water, while an automatic overflow pipe may also be provided for maintaining desired water level during rainfall, but it is to be fixed with a mesh cover to prevent fish loss. Net fencing can also be provided to prevent fish escape with overflow in case of high intensity rainfall. The third important thing is to keep the dykes 3-4 feet raised above ground level, so that water from catchment area does not enter the pond. It may bring lots of organic load and pesticides from the adjoining agricultural fields and pollute the water, which will affect fish survival and growth, besides posing serious food safety

concerns. Dr. Ansal further advised to periodically replenish 20-25% of pond water with freshwater to maintain optimum pH and oxygen levels during this season, where nutrient rich pond water can be efficiently utilised for irrigating paddy fields, with significant saving on fertilizer costs.



Hygienic practices are prerequisite to keep away water borne diseases

The expert(s) from the School of Public Health and Zoonoses revealed that waterborne disease can be parasitic, bacterial and viral, many of which are intestinal pathogens. Many water borne diseases such as giardiasis, cryptosporidiosis, hepatitis A and E viral infections (jaundice), leptospirosis, typhoid, cholera and food poisonings can occur due to drinking of contaminated water in the rainy season. Infection commonly results when this contaminated water is used during bathing, washing, drinking, in the preparation of food.

People should take preventive measures like ensuring that water does not get accumulated in and around their houses. Expert(s) recommended that the water tank be sanitized at least twice a year, and water should be periodically tested for the presence of bacteria and other contaminants. Water purifiers or filters installed in houses should be of reputed quality. There should be proper maintenance of filters, as the filters may act as a potential source of microbial contamination of water, if not cleaned properly from time to time. In case of any doubt, the water sample should be got tested from authorized laboratories. Thus, a significant amount of disease could be prevented through better access to safe water supply, adequate sanitation facilities and better hygiene practices.

Activities of Krishi Vigyan Kendras

KVK(s) are the real platform to serve the rural masses: Vice Chancellor

Dr. Inderjeet Singh, Vice Chancellor, GADVASU visited the Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Barnala. Dr. Singh reviewed the various activities and projects of KVK for uplifting the farming community, and made affirmative suggestions. The Vice-Chancellor inaugurated the mini sprinkler system at KVK farm of 4.5 acre area. Dr. Singh planted saplings of different varieties of plants to deliver message for eco-friendly environment. The Vice-Chancellor said that KVKs are the real platform to cater to the farming information needs of rural masses and motivated the faculty at KVK to serve the farming community by delivering the research, technology and interventions to the end users. Dr. Singh also interacted with progressive farmers of different enterprises of district Barnala and inquired about the problems faced by the farmers in running their establishments. He assured that university will be on the beck and call of every farmer to support them at every step and described to the farmers that role of KVKs in country is marvellous for the success of farming community.



Dr. Inderjeet Singh, Vice Chancellor planting saplings at KVK, Barnala

Nanaji Deshmukh ICAR Award

KVK, Booh (Tarn Taran) as an associated member of the team lead by Director ICAR-ATARI Zone I, Ludhiana received the prestigious Nanaji Deshmukh ICAR Award for Outstanding Interdisciplinary Team Research in Agricultural and Allied Sciences – 2019 for the management of crop residue in Punjab. The award given through video conferencing by Hon'ble Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Sh. Narendra Singh Tomar and Hon'ble Ministers of State for Agriculture and

Farmers Welfare Sh. Parshottam Rupala and Sh. Kailash Choudhary, carries an amount of Rs. 5 lakh and a citation. Dr. Inderjeet Singh, Vice-Chancellor, GADVASU congratulated the team KVK, Booh for being an associated member of the prestigious ICAR award.

KVK, Booh, Tarn Taran earns couple of Projects

KVK, Booh (Tarn Taran), bagged 2 projects entitled on "Development of low cost fruit fly traps for Cucurbit Vegetables and its demonstration at farmers' fields in border area of district Tarn Taran of Punjab, India" funded by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) and "Promotion of water saving technologies in horticultural crops for the farmers of district Tarn, Punjab" funded by Department of Soil and Water Conservation, Punjab.



Dr. Nirmal Singh, Assistant Professor (Horticulture) and Principal Investigator of both projects said that in fruit fly project, on-farm demonstrations will be conducted in cucurbit crops and low cost fruit fly traps will be developed and distributed amongst cucurbit growers of the border district. The second project will help to raise the irrigation as well as nutrient use efficiency and crop productivity.

Dr. Inderjeet Singh, Vice-Chancellor congratulated the project team and wished them success in improving income remuneration of small and marginal farmers.

Awareness camp on "Corn Cob Mixture silage making for sustainable animal production"

KVK (Booh) organised an awareness camp on "Corn Cob Mixture silage making for sustainable animal production" at village Sohal (Tarn Taran). Twenty livestock farmers participated in the awareness camp and got benefited. Participants were apprised about the best practices for good quality corn cob mixture silage making for feeding to the livestock. They were encouraged for production of organic fodder for protecting livestock from fodder toxicity. Sh. Kashmir Singh Deputy Director, Punjab Dairy Development Board (PDDDB), District Tarn Taran also addressed the farmers and shared with them information about different schemes of the government for livestock farmers.