

## ESTABLISHMENT OF KISAN COUNCIL

Krishi Mahotsava has been a trend setter in the sense that it has provided ample opportunities for one-to-one interaction between agricultural scientists and farmers of the state. Junagadh Agricultural University has taken a step further in this direction and Vice Chancellor Dr. B. K. Kikani, has initiated to start Kisan Council to realize the dream of our Hon. Chief Minister Shri Narendra Modi for establishing live contact between Scientists and farmers at village level itself.

A Co-ordinator will be appointed in the village who will work with 11 to 55 progressive farmers and maintain contact between university, line departments and allied sectors. The council will look after its monetary affairs, university will only provide guidance and will impart information on new technologies through personal contact and through distribution of literature on agriculture, animal husbandry and fisheries.

The members of the council will discuss the problems faced by farmers on Akashvani, Doordarshan and in daily newspapers and will try to take care of the day to day problems of farmers.

The progressive farmers, who are interested to form such council in their village/taluka are informed to contact :

Dr. D. B. Kuchhadiya  
Director of Extension Education,  
JAU, Junagadh, Phone : (0285) 2672653.

## Training / Workshop / Seminar



*Shri Suryakantbhai Acharya, Member of Rajyasabha Addressing during workshop on A.P.Cess Fund*

- The second annual workshop on A.P. Cess Fund projects of ICAR was organized at Junagadh Agricultural University, Junagadh. Hon. Member of Rajyasabha Shri Suryakantbhai Acharya inaugurated the workshop and Dr. B. K. Kikani, Vice Chancellor of JAU, presided over the function.



*Dr. B. K. Kikani, Vice Chancellor inaugurating Co-ordination Committee Meeting of All India Coordinated Research Project on Application of Plastics in Agriculture*

- National conference on " Sustainable Management of Water Resources " was held at College of Agricultural Engineering and Technology, JAU, Junagadh. About 150 participants from different departments and NGOs attended the workshop.



*Seminar on "Green House Technology and Horticultural Development" was organized on February, 22, 2006. Shri Dilip Sanghani, Ex. M.P. inaugurated the function. Dr. B. K. Kikani Vice Chancellor of JAU, presided over the function.*

- A special training programme for coastal population to prepare seaweed greeting cards and crag lobster stuffing was organized by Fisheries Research Station- Okha with a view to generate self employment among coastal population.



*Inauguration of the Review Workshop on FLD for KVKs*

- Review workshop on FLD for KVKs of western zone was organized at Junagadh Agricultural University, Junagadh. Dr. B. K. Kikani, Vice Chancellor of J.A.U. inaugurated the function.

## New Project

A mega project on seed production is being launched. Seed is the vital input for increasing the productivity of any crop. Good quality high yielding varieties are the backbone of agriculture. To provide quality seeds of improved varieties and hybrids at large scale, Junagadh Agricultural University proposed an ambitious project to Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi with prime objective of providing quality seeds to the farmers at reasonable prices. The approval of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research has been received with the grant of Rs. 415 Lakhs. After the implementation of the project, farmers of Saurashtra will be the major beneficiaries as they can get seeds of latest varieties of different crops like groundnut, cotton, castor, wheat, cumin, garlic and vegetables at competitive prices. Besides seeds of crops, grafts and saplings of fruits, medicinal and ornamental plants will also be available to Orchaists and farmers at reasonable cost. Due to this project, several problems of the farmers will be taken care of and their economic condition will also improve through higher production and Gujarat will be in the fore front in the country in terms of productivity. Dr. B. K. Kikani, Vice Chancellor has persuaded hard for getting it sanctioned.

## New Recommendations

The Variety Identification Committee has identified following varieties of groundnut developed at Main Oilseeds Research Station, Junagadh in its meeting held in October 2005.

### (1) Gujarat Groundnut 8 (J53)

Spanish bunch variety with higher pod yield than the check varieties JL 24 and TAG 24 (14.9 % and 6.9 % higher respectively), has been recommended for cultivation in Northern Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh (Zone-III). Kernels are rose coloured and round shaped with higher yield than the check varieties tested.

### (2) Gujarat Groundnut 16 (JSP 39)

This is a Virginia runner variety having elongated, medium sized and rose coloured kernels. The variety is suitable for cultivation in Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Southern Maharashtra. The pod yield of this variety is 41.5 % and 27.4 % higher than the check varieties M 335 and ICGV 86325, respectively.