



# IDP-NAHEP Pantnagar Updates

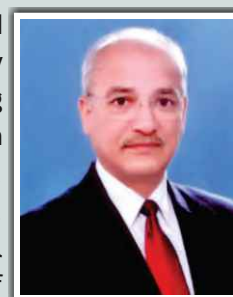
G. B. Pant University of Agriculture & Technology  
Pantnagar 263145, Uttarakhand

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## Message of IDP Leader, GBPUAT, Pantnagar

### IDP-NAHEP: An All Time Testimony of Teaching-Learning Excellence

The IDP-NAHEP project at Pantnagar has offered indisputable opportunities of growth and capacity building to the University fraternity. Both the students and faculty members drew immense insights and learnings through the varied project interventions. Be it developing capability for online teaching-learning or integrating 3D and virtual reality technology in teaching pedagogy or utilizing interactive smart boards in classroom teaching, etc. undoubtedly, a revolutionary experience was witnessed by all. Now taking this story ahead, efforts are being undertaken to weave the different project interventions together in a formal setup. This formal setup will function as a national level body dedicated for capacity building of faculty members in different aspects of teaching-learning excellence. Proper structure and functions will be developed for this national level body under the guidance of veterans of education. Moreover, the development of this formal setup is addressing the issue of post-project sustainability in the best possible way. I hope the way IDP-NAHEP project and the IDP Pantnagar team has contributed towards the capacity building of faculty members and students, in a similar way and rather with more intensity, the flag-bearers of this formal setup will also contribute towards the overall development of the University fraternity.



(Tej Partap)

## Hon'ble Governor of Uttarakhand Visited the IDP-NAHEP Premises

### Inaugurated e-Content Portal and NAHEP Guest House

The Hon'ble Governor of Uttarakhand Smt. Baby Rani Maurya who is also the Chancellor of Pantnagar University visited the University Centre-NAHEP Building on March 22, 2021. During the visit she inaugurated the e-content portal designed by IDP Pantnagar team as well as the NAHEP Guest House. The e-content portal shall provide a perfect opportunity of self-paced, independent and enriched learning without any temporal barriers to undergraduate students enrolled in different agriculture and allied sciences programmes. The e-content is planned and created to be interactive, engaging and yet simple enough to appeal to the varied audience. On the other hand, the guest house is designed and furnished under the aegis of IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar to provide accommodation facilities for visiting national and international faculty members. The guest house is



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## International Summit Organized on Agri-Innovations

The IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar in association with the College of Agriculture, Pantnagar organized a two days online *International Summit on Agri-Innovations in 21<sup>st</sup> Century and the Ways Ahead*. The summit was held on March 09-10, 2021 with the inaugural keynote address by the World Food Prize 2020 recipient Dr. Rattan Lal, Professor, Environment and Natural Sciences, The Ohio State University, USA. He highlighted the significance of soil resources and traced the journey of agricultural innovations to keeping the soil healthy. The summit had the presence of several other stalwarts from different parts of the world who shared their insights with more than 450 participants from all across the country. The two day intense discussions revolved around integrating technology and agricultural extension services, creating multidisciplinary research centers, nurturing students for solving complex digital agricultural problems, improving irrigation efficiency through indigenous methods, etc. Dr. Tej Partap, hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Pantnagar University shared his views on innovations in agricultural educations and the future endeavours and plans of Pantnagar. Dr. S.K. Kashyap Dean, College of Agriculture led the valedictory session of the two-days international summit and appreciated the efforts made by the keynote speakers in motivating the agricultural graduates and other participants towards inculcating a perspective towards agricultural innovations. Dr. J.P. Jaiswal, Professor, Genetics and Plant Breeding coordinated the event with a team of faculty members of the College of Agriculture.

 <b>Dr. Rattan Lal</b> Professor, Soil Science The Ohio State University, Columbus, USA The World Food Prize 2020 Recipient	 <b>Dr. B.B. Singh</b> Visiting Professor & Senior Fellow Department of Soil and Crop Science Borlaug Institute for International Agriculture Texas A&M University, USA	 <b>Dr. Rameshwar Kanwar</b> Charles F. Curtiss Distinguished Professor Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering Iowa State University, USA
 <b>Dr. V.V. Sadamate</b> Former Adviser Agriculture Planning Commission GOI	 <b>Dr. Digvir S. Jayas</b> Vice-President (Research & International) Distinguished Professor University of Manitoba Canada	 <b>Dr. Basant Maheshwari</b> Professor Dean's Unit School of Science Western Sydney University Australia
 <b>Dr. Alex Winter-Nelson</b> Professor & Director of ACES Office of International Programs University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign USA	 <b>Dr Shiv Kumar Agrawal</b> Scientist, ICARDA Morocco	 <b>Dr. Prasanta K. Kalita</b> Professor, Soil & Water Resources Engineering Presidential Fellow University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign USA

**Experts of the Summit**



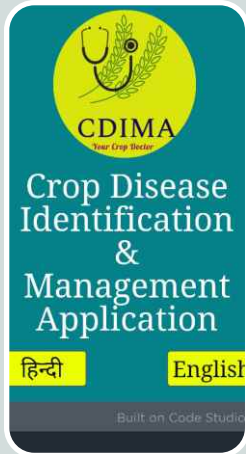
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medicinal importance. It will have major plantations of *Elaeocarpus ganitrus* or popularly known as Rudraksha, and therefore the guest house is also known as Rudraksha Bhawan. The inauguration event witnessed the presence of Vice-Chancellor Dr. Tej Partap, PI, IDP-NAHEP Dr. S.K. Kashyap, Director Works and Plants Dr. S.K. Goel, Director Communication Dr. S.K. Bansal, faculty members and IDP Pantnagar team. Both the newly inaugurated units will have a significant role in pushing forward and supporting the mandate of IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar.



## Short-Term Course Organized on Development of Mobile Applications

The Agri-Informatics component of IDP-NAHEP organized a two weeks online short-term course on *Development of Mobile Applications for Agricultural World* for undergraduate students. The course began on February 22, 2021 and concluded on March 9, 2021. The mobile applications have given many benefits to farmers starting from better land management judgements to quality yield. Farmers are using different types of apps to review the health of the crops during the crop cycle. These applications are developed to help the farmers in different aspects of crop management, market requirements, weather updates etc. The advent of mobile app development has enabled farmers as end-user to manage their work more effectively. Thus, with this insight and to encourage the students to develop more such mobile applications which would benefit the farmers in dealing with emerging agricultural challenges, this short-term course was launched. The course was mentored by Ms. Sonam Pandey, Director



and Mr. Gaurav Pant, Consultant, ACTECAL Private Limited, Uttarakhand. More than 70 participants had shown their enthusiasm in designing small mobile applets. By the end of this short-term course, the student groups managed to design a model application for agriculture related issues. These included five mobile applications on crop disease identification and management application, android application for identification of diseases in crops (a huge database with all the plants/crops, crop diseases, remedy to cure crop diseases, weather forecast and schedule for watering the crops), sensory evaluation data collection app (SENSTA) which collects data from the target audience for new product development, android application for collecting data for aquaculture, and android application for irrigation water management. The participants shared that it was one of a kind unique hands on learning experience and appreciated the guidance provided by the course mentors.



## One Month Training Initiated on Python Programming Language

Continuing the series of events of technical skill development, IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar started a month training programme on *Python Programming Language* for undergraduate students of Pantnagar University. This one-month training helped the students of agriculture background to get hands-on experience of computer languages. Python is one of the most widely used programming languages today, and its readability makes it simple to learn for beginners. It is a free, open-source programming language with a broad community and comprehensive support modules, as well as simple integration with web services, user-friendly data structures, and GUI-based desktop applications. It is a popular programming language for machine learning and deep learning applications. A batch of selected 30 students of different academic backgrounds were taken for the training. The training initiated on March 6, 2021 and



will continue for a month. The inaugural of the workshop witnessed the presence of, PI, IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar and Dean, College of Agriculture, Dr. S.K. Kashyap, and Dr. S.K. Guru, Nodal Officer (Academic), IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar. The students our exited to learn the programming language as it wood be and additional skill set for them.



## Training Conducted on Advances of UAV in Agriculture

Two days online training was organized on the topic titled *Advances of UAV in Agriculture* on March 15-16, 2021 under the Agri-Informatics component of IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar. The expert of the training was Dr. R.D. Garg, Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee. Dr. Garg initiated the training by elaborating on the fundamental characteristics of Unmanned Aerial Vehicle. He also highlighted the applications of UAV data in the field of agriculture in detail. He had described these topics along with several case studies in order to make it easier for the participants to understand the working. The UAV is an emerging technology and will go a long way in managing problems of agriculture, remarked the expert. Dr. Nain, Coordinator, Agri-Informatics component was also present in the webinar and highlighted the importance of UAV and its application in agriculture. He stated that UAV is the future of agriculture in India. It could be used to reduce labor cost and shortage of labor. The training culminated with an intriguing series of questions and answers. A total of 55 participants attended the training.

**Dr. R. D. Garg**  
Deptt. of Civil Engg.  
IIT Roorkee



## Webinar Held on Digital Transformation of Indian Agriculture System

The Agri-Informatics component of IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar organized an interactive webinar on *Digital Transformation of Indian Agriculture System*. The webinar was held on March 24, 2021 using the MS Teams platform. The lecture was delivered by Dr. Brajendra Parmar, Principal Scientist, ICAR-Indian Institute of Rice Research, Hyderabad. The objective of the webinar was to create awareness about agricultural apps and its importance in farming sector. During the webinar, Dr. Brajendra focused on new technologies which can assist agriculture infrastructure and public distribution system. He also emphasized on agricultural technologies that improves farm productivity and helps in reducing losses due to crop stresses such as pests, diseases, and unpredictable weather conditions. Overall, the webinar helped the participants 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 webinar.

**Dr. Brajendra Parmar**  
Principal Scientist  
ICAR-IIRR, Hyderabad



## Workshop Organized on Gaining Impetus through Grooming Inherent Talent

A seven days performing arts workshop was organized by IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar in association with the University Cultural Team. The workshop was organized for University Cultural Team members and other undergraduate students of Pantnagar University in order to groom their performing arts skills. The resource persons for the workshop were Ms. Manjali Sharma and Mr. Chirag Sharma. Ms. Manjali Sharma is a trained professional performing artist and also owns a Performing arts Academy named Flying Soul which trains the upcoming budding performing artists in various performing arts forms. She has a vast experience of performing in stage shows, performing arts battles and functions. Mr. Chirag Sharma is also a very well experienced performing artist. He has experience of various performing arts shows and also owns his performing arts academy. The workshop was inaugurated on March 18, 2021 where Dr. Shefali Massey, Member Academic Component, IDP-NAHEP and Staff Counsellor, University Cultural Team welcomed all the dignitaries. Selected 25 undergraduate students participated in the workshop. The resource persons professionally trained the



students during the workshop and trained them in varied aspects of performing arts. The valedictory session of the event was held on March 26, 2021 where Dean Student Welfare, Dr. Brijesh Singh said that this type of workshop is first of its kind where students are trained professionally in the performing arts forms and congratulated all for successful organization of the event. The students also appreciated the initiative and requested to have more such workshops in future.

## Workshop Conducted on Mastering the Art of Non-Verbal Expressions

A three-day workshop was conducted by IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar in collaboration with the University Dramatics Team from March 24-26, 2021. The theme of the workshop was *Mastering the Art of Non-Verbal Expressions*. Mr. Mahendra Singh, Theatre Artist and Trainer, an Alumni of National School of Drama, New Delhi was the resource person and there were total of selected 25 participants from different colleges of the University. The workshop was inaugurated by Dr. S.K. Kashyap, PI, IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar and Dr. S.K. Guru, Nodal Officer (Academic), IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar and was coordinated by Dr. Aman Kamboj, Project Scientist, Academic Team, IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar and Staff Counsellor, University Dramatics Team. In the three-days duration of the workshop, the trainer worked on the different aspects of non-verbal expressions including facial expressions, body movements, gestures and emotions which has an important role in performing arts. The dialogue and



content delivery part were also covered in the workshop. The workshop was completely interactive where the expert trained the students with the help of activities and practical tasks. The workshop concluded with a valedictory session held in the presence of Dr. Brijesh Singh, Dean Student Welfare, where students shared their experiences and highlighted the role of such workshops in enhancing skills, improving confidence level, building perspective and overall development of the students.



## Orientation Programme of Fresher Students Organized by IDP Pantnagar

After relaxation of the lockdown, first year undergraduate students came to campus to feel the essence and beauty of college life. A two-day orientation programme was conducted on March 24-25, 2021 at University Centre - NAHEP Building, Pantnagar. Dr. S.K. Kashyap, Dean, College of Agriculture and PI, IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar and Dr. Brijesh Singh, Dean Student Welfare inaugurated the programme and welcomed the students in Pantnagar. They told the beneficial aspects of being a student of G.B. Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar and highlighted IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar activities and achievements. The workshop focused on giving the students an overview of the IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar and its activities for the personality, soft skill and technical skill development. The students were also exposed to different components of IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar. Dr. Deepti Kothari, Post Doctoral Fellow of Skill and Entrepreneurship Development interacted with the students and motivated them to participate in different activities of IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar. Dr. Deepika Pandey, Post Doctoral Fellow of



Virtual Lab, told them about the purpose and utility of 3D enabled learning and virtual reality applications in agricultural education. The students were also exposed to 3D movies in order to experience the facilities of the Virtual Lab. Mr. Shubham Kumar, Research Associate of Language Lab, informed the students about the certificate courses running in different foreign languages and its benefits. A total of 160 first year undergraduate students of the University attended the orientation programme and benefitted from it. The students were delighted to learn about IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar and were eager to participate in different activities.

## Wall Painting Competition: Golden Opportunity for Budding Talents

After one year of online training and workshops due to the COVID-19 pandemic, IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar welcomed the University students back to the campus by organizing an artistic Wall Painting Competition on March 21, 2021 and March 26, 2021 with the themes *Moods and Cultures of India* and *Nature and Landscapes*, respectively. The event received an overwhelming response with the registration of over 300 students from various colleges of the University. Finally, 24 teams for the first theme and 31 teams for the second theme were shortlisted to paint the walls of IDP Amphitheatre. The students were given a token to buy items as per their requirements and four hours to complete the painting on the themes provided. The clarity, relevance, creativity, neatness, presentation and aesthetics/impression of the idea were the criteria on which paintings were judged, and winners were selected. Mrs. Shweta Bisht, Principal, KSM Convent Public Junior High School, Jawahar Nagar, Mrs. Ragini Saxena, Senior Music Teacher, Campus School, Pantnagar and



Mr. Anurag Kumar, Photographer, IDP-NAHEP Pantnagar were the esteemed judges of the event. The hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Tej Partap also visited the vicinity and appreciated the students' arts and vision behind the paintings. Team Brush Bros and Team Biophilia were the winners of the contest, Team Ninaad and Team Renaissance were the first runner-ups and Team Rainbow and Team Masters were the second runner-ups of the competition.



## The Main Events of April 2021

S. No.	Event	Proposed Date	Venue	Nodal Unit	Convener
1.	Workshop on Effective Communication Skills	05-04-2021 to 11-04-2021	University Centre - NAHEP Building	Academic Team	Dr. S.K. Guru, College of Basic Sciences and Humanities
2.	One Week Course on Agricultural Informatics	05-04-2021 to 11-04-2021	University Centre - NAHEP Building	Academic Team	Dr. S.K. Guru, College of Basic Sciences and Humanities
3.	15 Days Remedial Classes on Spoken English	05-04-2021 Onward	University Centre - NAHEP Building	Academic Team	Dr. S.K. Guru, College of Basic Sciences and Humanities
4.	15 Days Photography Workshop	05-04-2021 Onwards	University Centre - NAHEP Building	Academic Team	Dr. S.K. Guru, College of Basic Sciences and Humanities
5.	One Month Workshop on Finance Management in Food Startups	05-04-2021 Onward	University Centre - NAHEP Building	Academic Team	Dr. S.K. Guru, College of Basic Sciences and Humanities
6.	10 Days Training cum Counselling Programme on Train Your Mind to be Successful	06-04-2021 to 15-04-2021	University Centre - NAHEP Building	Academic Team	Dr. S.K. Guru, College of Basic Sciences and Humanities
7.	7 Days Workshop on How to Start a Startup	07-04-2021 to 12-04-2021	University Centre - NAHEP Building	Innovation and Incubation Centre Team	Dr. A.K. Upadhyay, College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences
8.	3 Months Beginners Level French Language Course	12-04-2021 Onwards	University Centre - NAHEP Building	Language Lab Team	Dr. Alka Goel, College of Home Science
9.	3 Months Beginners Level German Language Course	12-04-2021 Onwards	University Centre - NAHEP Building	Language Lab Team	Dr. Alka Goel, College of Home Science



## An Year of Crests and Troughs

**Dr. S.K. Kashyap**  
**Dean, College of Agriculture/PI, IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar**

The year 2020-21 was full of challenges and opportunities for the IDP Pantnagar team. The unprecedented pandemic, the lockdown, the procurement issues, the all new online platforms, and what not. But despite new challenges appearing on a daily basis, the IDP Pantnagar team exerted best possible efforts to bring out the best performance. More than 5100 students, 500 faculty members, and 350 other professionals benefited from different IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar programmes, activities and events. Strategic and structured interventions were made at regular intervals in order to continue with all the planned activities. Also, several new initiatives were taken such as regular overseas expert lecture series, remedial classes by alumni for preparation of competitive exams, online student internships, etc. The collective efforts of the IDP Pantnagar team resulted not only in fulfillment of set targets but also resulted in achieving more than the set targets on several parameters. The significant impact thus created helped the University sustain and develop during the tough times. The IDP Pantnagar team is committed to keep on the path and uphold its vision of generating a culture of excellence and innovation based ecosystem in the University.

