



*Striving for a greener tomorrow...*

# PJTAU NEWS



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## From the VC's Desk



Climate change has emerged as the greatest challenge of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, profoundly impacting agriculture, ecosystems, and food security across the globe. Rising global temperatures, erratic rainfall patterns, increasing frequency of extreme weather events like floods, droughts, cyclones, and the shifting geography of pests and diseases are collectively threatening the stability of agri food production systems. These disruptions are not confined to one region but distributed across every continent, with the greatest toll on vulnerable populations whose livelihoods are intricately tied to the land.

India, with its vast and diverse agro climatic zones, is particularly exposed to the impacts of climate variability and being an agri based country with nearly 60% of its population in the sector, changes in climate are not only an environmental concern but a socio economic one. Unseasonal rains, delayed monsoons, prolonged dry spells, and rising temperatures are already leading to reduced crop yields, declining soil health, and increasing input costs for farmers. The food supply chain from production to distribution is under growing strain, underscoring the urgent need for climate resilient agricultural practices.

Telangana, located in India's semi-arid zone, presents a microcosm of these national challenges. The state's agricultural sector is highly dependent on seasonal rainfall, making it especially vulnerable to climatic fluctuations. Recurrent droughts, groundwater depletion, and soil degradation are increasingly affecting staple crops such as paddy, cotton, and pulses. To mitigate these challenges, Telangana has initiated several progressive interventions, including the promotion of micro-irrigation, diversification of crops, and the integration of technology such as remote sensing, drones, and AI for smart farming.

However, addressing the impacts of climate change in agriculture requires more than regional adaptation. It calls for coordinated efforts across multiple levels-international cooperation, national policy reform, scientific innovation, and community level action. Investments in climate smart agriculture, inclusive capacity building, and sustainable resource management are critical. Empowering farmers through access to information, resilient seeds, and financial tools will be the key resources to build a future ready agricultural system. As we navigate the complexities of climate change, agriculture must transform not just to survive, but to thrive. It is through collaborative action, informed policy, and innovation that we can ensure food security and resilience for current and future generations.

**Aldas Janaiah**  
Vice-Chancellor

## Important Events

### PJTAU Launches Landmark Farmer Outreach Initiative "Rythu Mungitlo Shastravettalu" Across Telangana

The first-of-its-kind outreach programme "Rythu Mungitlo Shastravettalu" was grandly inaugurated by Sri Gaddam Prasad Kumar, the Hon'ble Speaker of the Telangana Legislative Assembly, Sri Tummala Nageswara Rao, the Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture and Prof. Aldas Janaiah, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of Professor Jayashankar Telangana Agricultural University on 5<sup>th</sup> May, 2025, at Dharrur Mandal, Vikarabad District. Over 1,200 field programmes were conducted by 200 plus teams comprising of PJTAU scientists, officials from the Department of Agriculture, agri-students, and progressive farmers. The initiative aimed to educate farmers on sustainable practices such as awareness among farmers on 6 key items viz., reducing usage of urea, judicious use of chemicals, saving irrigation water, crop diversification, retention of seed and pesticide purchase bills and planting trees to protect the environment.

Programmes were held daily from 8:00 AM to 11:00 AM at venues like *Rythu Vedikas*, Primary Agricultural



*Sri Gaddam Prasad Kumar, Hon'ble Speaker, Telangana addressing the gathering at RMS program at Dharrur mandal, Vikarabad*



*Sri Tummala Nageswara Rao, Hon'ble Minister, Telangana addressing the farmers at RMS inaugural Program*

Cooperative Society (PACS) buildings, and community halls, featuring expert talks, demonstrations, experience-sharing by farmers, and interactive sessions. The outreach effort was coordinated at three levels – University, Zonal, and Grass-root – under the guidance of PJTAU's Directorate of Extension, Research, and Deans, with Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor as Chairman. In a six week long outreach programme, a team of 200 University Scientists, along with Officials from Dept. of Agriculture covered 1200 villages and 1,20,000 farmers across Telangana, besides participation of Ministers, MPs, around 25 MLAs and MLCs, Members of State Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Commission, District Agricultural Officers, school students, teachers and local representatives and created awareness among farmers on 6 key items viz., reducing usage of urea, judicious use of chemicals, saving irrigation water, crop diversification and planting trees to protect the environment.

### Quality Seed to Every Village (QSEV) Programme - Telangana's Quality Seed Initiative

A flagship initiative "Quality Seed to Every Village" (QSEV) programme - aimed at strengthening seed security, enhancing seed replacement rate, strengthening seed systems. promoting sustainable agriculture, and enhancing farm productivity across the state was launched by PJTAU on the occasion of Telangana's 12<sup>th</sup> Formation Day i.e 2<sup>nd</sup> June, 2025. As a part of this pioneering effort, the University distributed 35,000 quality seed kits to an equal number of farmers, covering 10,909 villages across 588

mandals in all 32 districts of Telangana. This large-scale outreach was made possible through the coordinated efforts of 432 University scientists, 3,600 officials from the Department of Agriculture, and the active involvement of public representatives.

Sri Tummala Nageswara Rao, Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture, Co-operation, Marketing & Textiles Telangana formally launched QSEV during the State Formation Day celebrations at Bhadradri Kothagudem district by handing

over seed kits to 10 selected farmers. In Ranga Reddy district, Professor Aldas Janaiah, Vice-Chancellor, PJTAU along with Vem Narender Reddy, Hon'ble Chief Minister's Advisor, Malreddy Rangareddy, MLA, and Narayana Reddy, District Collector distributed seed kits to progressive farmers.

Throughout Telangana, Ministers, MLAs, Government whips, Corporation chairpersons, and district collectors participated in the celebrations and collectively



*Seed distribution by the Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture, Telangana as part of QSEV program*

distributed seed kits to approximately 300 farmers on Telangana Formation Day. The remaining kits were distributed on 3<sup>rd</sup> June, through *Rythu Vedika* platforms, with the involvement of Agricultural Extension Officers, Agricultural Officials, University Personnel, and elected representatives. In total, the QSEV programme - reaffirms University's commitment to farmer empowerment, village-level seed accessibility, and the long-term resilience of Telangana's agricultural sector.



*The Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor distributing seeds to farmers in QSEV program*

## Seed Hub for Sesame sanctioned at RARS, Jagtial under NMEO-OS

As part of the Government of India's National Mission on Edible Oils–Oilseeds (NMEO-OS), a new sesame seed hub has been approved and established at the Regional Agricultural Research Station (RARS), Polasa, Jagtial in Telangana with a total sanctioned Rs.250.00 lakhs for the development of this hub. This initiative aims to support the expansion of oilseed cultivation and boost the production and productivity of sesame in the state. To strengthen seed

availability and quality, the Government of India will construct a state-of-the-art, temperature-controlled seed storage facility and establish essential infrastructure for the processing of high-quality sesame seeds. This seed hub will play a vital role in ensuring timely access to quality seeds for farmers, thereby contributing to the broader goal of achieving self-reliance in edible oil production.

## Outstanding Achievement in PJTAU's Ongoing Legacy of Varietal Releases

Five high-yielding maize hybrids developed by the Maize Research Unit, Rajendranagar, have been officially identified for release and notification at the national level by the Varietal Identification Committee (VIC) meeting of the All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) on Maize, held on 11<sup>th</sup> April, 2025, at Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU), Coimbatore. The meeting was chaired by Dr. D.K. Yadava, Deputy Director General (Crop Science), ICAR, New Delhi. The newly identified varieties are expected to offer farmers better options for productivity, income, and climate resilience. The details of the hybrids are as follows:

- DHM 206 (Telangana makka-3) is a high yielding (10703 kg/ha), medium duration (105-110 days) single

cross grain corn hybrid with yellow flint grains and moderate resistance to all major pest and diseases.

- DHM 182 (Telangana Makka-4) is a high yielding (10718 kg/ha), medium duration (100-105 days) single cross grain corn hybrid with yellow flint grains and moderate resistance to post flowering stalk rot, Turicum Leaf Blight, MLB and FRS and tolerance to *Chilo partellus*, *Sesamia inferens* and fall army worm.
- DHM 211 (Telangana Makka-5) is a high yielding (10483 kg/ha), late maturity (110-115 days) single cross grain corn hybrid with stay green nature and yellow flint grain. It is moderately resistant to all major and minor diseases.

- DHM 213 (Telangana Makka-6) is a high yielding (8142 kg/ha) single cross grain corn hybrid of medium maturity (95-100 days) with high starch content (60.91%) and yellow semi-flint grains. It is moderately resistant to all major and minor diseases.
- DHM 218 (Telangana Makka -7) is a medium duration (100-105 days) single cross grain corn hybrid suitable for both under rainfed and irrigated agro-ecologies (Kharif ecology). Its yield potential is 8400 to 8924 kg/ha with yellow flint grains, a high shelling percentage (80.5), high starch content (59.30%) and moderately resistance to PFSR, MLB, TLB, CLS and FSR.



*DHM 206 (Telangana Makka-3)*



*DHM 182 (Telangana Makka-4)*



*DHM 211 (Telangana Makka-5)*



*DHM 213 (Telangana Makka-6)*



*DHM 218 (Telangana Makka -7)*

## Workshops/Conferences/Meetings/Seminars

### PJTAU Unveils Strategy for Climate-Smart, Tech-Driven Agriculture at 48<sup>th</sup> REAC Meeting

Professor Jayashankar Telangana Agricultural University hosted its 48<sup>th</sup> Research and Extension Advisory Council (REAC) meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> April, 2025, at the University Auditorium, Rajendranagar. The meeting was chaired by Prof. Aldas Janaiah, Honourable Vice-Chancellor who reiterated the need for shift in agricultural research toward environmental protection, natural farming, and the future of human-free agriculture.

Prof. Janaiah addressed the gathering and emphasized the need for adaptive institutional frameworks

to meet the evolving challenges of modern agriculture. He acknowledged Telangana's current agricultural output which can be attributed to the historic high-yield policies. However, he stressed that the next frontier lies in overcoming emerging challenges like climate change, sustainability, and value addition. He urged intensified research in organic agriculture, AI, drone technologies, robotics, and the preservation of indigenous crop varieties. Highlighting the University's role as a knowledge partner, he envisioned Telangana's potential to become a major food

exporter - including annual rice exports worth ₹20,000 crore - and projected the possibility of achieving human-free agriculture by 2047.

Dr. M. Balram, Director of Research, and Dr. M. Yakadri, Director of Extension, presented highlights of research and extension activities for 2022–24. The Farmers offered ground-level insights and suggestions. The event witnessed participation from Members of PJTAU's Board of Management, Officers from Veterinary, Horticultural, and Forestry Universities, retired scientists, progressive farmers, KVK programme coordinators, DAATTC coordinators, and University heads and faculty, underlining the collaborative spirit of Telangana's agricultural development. The REAC meeting reaffirmed PJTAU's commitment to science-driven, sustainable, and future-

ready agriculture, setting the stage for transformative initiatives that align with both local needs and global trends.



*Prof. Aldas Janaiah, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor envisaging on overcoming the future challenges in agriculture in 48<sup>th</sup> REAC meeting*

## ZREAC Meetings – Frame the Agenda for Ensuing Vanakalam and Yasangi

The Zonal Research and Extension Advisory Council (ZREAC) meetings for the Northern and Southern Telangana Zones were successfully held on 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> April, 2025 and 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> April, 2025, respectively. These meetings aimed to prioritize and plan agricultural research and extension activities for the upcoming *Vanakalam* and *Yasangi* seasons of 2025–26. The meeting was chaired by Dr. M. Balram, Director of Research, and Dr. M. Yakadri, Director of Extension and the meetings witnessed participation from key officials and stakeholders. Dr. B.S. Latha, Additional Collector, Jagtial, and Shri Badavath Santhosh, I.A.S., Collector and District Magistrate, Nagarkurnool, graced the meetings as Guests of Honour for the Northern and Southern Telangana Zones, respectively.

The program began with presentations on the research and extension achievements and the Action Taken Report for 2024–25. This was followed by comprehensive crop-wise group discussions with farmers, identification of

field-level challenges, and refinement of technologies. The technical programme for 2025–26 was finalized through collaborative deliberations, incorporating farmer feedback to ensure relevance and effectiveness in addressing regional agricultural needs.



*Dr. M. Balram, Director of Research addressing the participants during inaugural programme of STZ - ZREAC (Vanakalam and Yasangi), 2025-26*

## Unlocking Telangana's Rice Export Potential: Constraints, Opportunities, and the Way Forward

A workshop on challenges and potential avenues in enhancing rice exports from Telangana entitled “Identifying Constraints & Opportunities for Telangana Rice Exports and Way Forward” was organized on 15<sup>th</sup> April, 2025 at Ag-Hub, PJTAU, Rajendranagar. Sri Nalamada Uttam Kumar Reddy, the Hon'ble Minister for Irrigation & CAD, Food & Civil Supplies, Government of Telangana, inaugurated the event and in his address reiterated the government's strong commitment in promoting rice exports. Sri Reddy stressed, Telangana is a leading rice-producing state in India, with a record production of 280 lakh metric tons (2025-26), while attributing this achievement to the resilience and dedication of farmers; favourable climatic conditions; and

the adoption of improved rice varieties. Further highlighting Telangana's successful initiation of rice exports to the Philippines through a direct Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Philippine government, enabling the export of 10 lakh metric tons of bold grain rice annually. Sri Reddy added that approximately 60 lakh metric tons of rice will be allocated to central stocks, leaving a surplus of 50–60 lakh metric tons available for export. Later, stressed the importance of adopting sustainable practices such as Direct Seeding of Rice (DSR), Alternate Wetting and Drying (AWD) emphasised on cultivation of export potential and chemical free rice varieties to meet global quality standards.

The workshop also focused on both domestic marketing strategies and international trade prospects, exploring ways to minimize logistical and policy bottlenecks. Experts proposed that supplying rice from paddy procurement centres to exporters at the actual cost incurred by the government could facilitate exports without additional financial strain on public resources.

Prof. Aldas Janaiah, Honourable Vice-Chancellor, PJTAU; Dr. M. Balram, Director of Research; Dr. Samarendu Mohanty, Director, Centre for Sustainable Agriculture and UGC Professor of Practice; representatives from APEDA, Food Corporation of India (FCI), Telangana Civil Supplies Department, Federation of Telangana Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FTCCI), All India Rice Millers Association, Agricultural Marketing Departments, rice exporters, and farmer organizations actively participated in the workshop.

Notable addresses and expert insights were provided by Dr. B. Krishna Rao, President, All India Rice

Millers Association; Dr. Balram, Director of Research; Dr. Damodar Raju, Principal Scientist (Rice) and Dr. Samarendu Mohanty, a World Food Prize Foundation Awardee. The event served as a strategic platform to identify actionable steps for strengthening Telangana's position in global rice markets and ensuring long-term benefits for farmers and exporters alike.



*Sri N. Uttam Kumar Reddy, Hon'ble Minister for Irrigation & CAD, Food & Civil Supplies, Government of Telangana addressing the gathering*

## State Level Technical Programme Workshop Highlights: Strategic Planning for 2025-26

The State Level Technical Programme Workshop of the research and extension wings of PJTAU for the year 2024-25 was held from 21<sup>st</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> April, 2025 for research and from 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> May, 2025 for extension at the University Auditorium. Prof. Aldas Janaiah, Honourable Vice-Chancellor, PJTAU in his inaugural address, emphasized a phased restructuring of the University and on publishing in high NAAS-rated journals by the faculty and students. Dr. M. Balram, Director of Research, presented the research highlights for 2024-25, while Dr. M. Yakadri, Director of Extension, delivered a comprehensive report on extension activities undertaken by various University units.

The workshop served as a platform to review the research and extension work conducted during 2024-25 and to finalize the technical program for 2025-26, taking into account changing climatic conditions, evolving Government policies, and emerging challenges in

agriculture. Additionally, a Breeder Seed Production Meeting was convened to set crop-wise seed production targets for 2025-26 to meet the demands of both public and private sector institutions. The performance of minikits evaluated during 2024-25 was reviewed, and the minikits to be tested during 2025-26 were finalized.



*Prof. Aldas Janaiah, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor addressing the participants during inaugural programme of SLTP - 2025-26*

## SBI ARISA Lab Marks a Milestone in Agri-Tech Innovation

PJTAU organized the Sensitization cum Pre-Launch Programme of the SBI ARISA Lab (*AI, Robotics and IoT for Smart Agriculture*) on 21<sup>st</sup> June, 2025 at the Centre for Digital Agriculture, Agricultural Research Institute, Rajendranagar. The event was graced by Sri M. Raghunandan Rao, IAS, Agricultural Production Commissioner and Secretary, Government of Telangana (Agriculture and Cooperation Department), along with

Prof. Aldas Janaiah, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, PJTAU, University Officials, and other dignitaries.

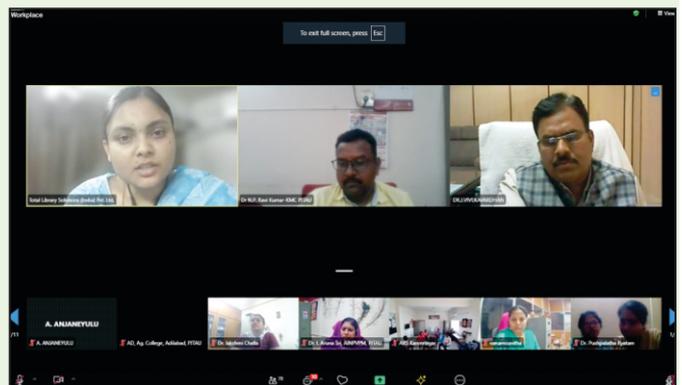
The ARISA Lab is poised to become a hub for cutting-edge agri-tech innovations, including the development of a robotic prototype for automated weeding and harvesting, expected to be launched within a year. This initiative represents a significant step towards advancing digital agriculture and transforming farming practices across Telangana.

## KMC Conducts Webinars to Strengthen Academic and Research Competencies

The Knowledge Management Centre (KMC) organized a series of insightful webinars during April to June 2025, focusing on enhancing academic writing, research preparedness, and access to scholarly resources as detailed under.

- A webinar on Grammarly Writing Software held on 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2025 was aimed at improving academic writing and minimizing grammatical errors. This session highlighted the features and practical use of Grammarly software. Ms. Mansi Saini led the session, demonstrating how the tool supports effective and error-free writing.
- A webinar on NIPAERS Competitive Examination Portal was held on 29<sup>th</sup> May 2025, wherein Mr. Sumit Pal Jain, CEO of NIPA, New Delhi, delivered an informative lecture on the NIPAERS portal. He showcased the platform's features, which are particularly beneficial for students and research scholars preparing for competitive examinations in the agricultural sciences.

- A webinar on Enhancing Research Excellence through One Nation One Subscription was organized on 17<sup>th</sup> June, 2025 wherein Dr. J. Vivekavardhan, University Librarian, explained the objectives and benefits of the ONOS initiative in boosting research and academic excellence. The session also featured Mr. Manoj Gupta and Ms. Shagun Goyal, who provided hands-on guidance on using Sage Journals and shared strategies for writing and publishing high-quality research articles.



*Ms. Mansi Saini addressing the participants at webinar on Grammarly Software*

## Workshop on "Fitness and Wellness through Yoga" Conducted at College of Agriculture, Rajendranagar

A rejuvenating workshop on "Fitness and Wellness through Yoga" was organized on 3<sup>rd</sup> May, 2025 by the Sports Club, NSS, and NCC units of the College of Agriculture, Rajendranagar, exclusively for B.Sc. (Hons) Agriculture first-year students. Dr. K. Bhanu Rekha, Sports Club Incharge, welcomed the dignitaries onto the dais, including Dr. M. Goverdhan, Associate Dean, and Dr. S. Prasuna Ajay—Yoga Trainer, Nutritionist, Life Coach, and Founder of Sampoorna Arogya Institute of Yoga and Naturopathy.

Following a formal welcome address by the Associate Dean, Dr. Prasuna Ajay conducted an information guest lecture coupled with a live yoga session. Students actively participated in simple yet effective yoga movements aimed at improving concentration and strengthening the spine, hands, and legs. The session included practical demonstrations of Tadasana, Balasana, Parvatasana, Trikonasana, and Suryanamaskaras. A captivating highlight of the workshop was a graceful yogic dance performance on



*Honouring the guests at Fitness workshop*

*Shiva Tandava Stotram* by four female disciples of Dr. Prasuna Ajay, which left the audience spellbound. The workshop witnessed the enthusiastic participation of around 330 students, along with NSS Officers and NCC Officer. Students expressed heartfelt appreciation to the college authorities for organizing the insightful and energizing session.

## Visitors

### Dr. M. L. Jat, DARE & Director General, ICAR applauds PJTAU for its Outstanding Performance

Dr. M. L. Jat, the newly appointed Secretary of the Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE) and Director General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), visited Professor Jayashankar Telangana Agricultural University Hyderabad, on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2025. During his visit, Dr. Jat held an interactive meeting with all University Officers. The Vice-Chancellor highlighted the illustrious 60-year journey of the University, underscoring its contributions to agricultural education, research, and extension. Earlier, Dr. M. L. Jat was warmly welcomed by the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Aldas Janaiah, along with faculty and staff.

Dr. Jat commended Prof. Janaiah for his visionary leadership and appreciated the University's recent strides in enhancing institutional performance across various domains. He assured his full support for PJTAU's



*Dr. M. L. Jat, DARE & Director General, ICAR honoured by the Vice-Chancellor, PJTAU*

developmental pursuits and reaffirmed his commitment to strengthening the National Agricultural Research System by fostering synergy among International, National, and State-level institutions.

### Strengthening Agri-Innovation Ties

AgHub had the honour of welcoming a high-level delegation from the Ministry of National Development Planning of the Republic of Indonesia, led by Deputy Minister Mr. Bapak Leonardo A. A. Teguh Sambodo on 20<sup>th</sup> May, 2025. The visit fostered meaningful exchanges on India's dynamic agricultural innovation ecosystem, the integration of startup-driven technologies, and sustainable farming practices. Discussions underscored AgHub's pivotal role in connecting research, innovation, and policy to drive rural development.



*University officials with delegates from the Ministry of National Development Planning of the Republic of Indonesia*

### Nigerian Delegation Explores Agri-Tech Collaboration at PJTAU Drone Academy

A 15-member delegation from Nigeria, led by His Excellency Mallam Umar A. Namadi, FCA, Governor of Jigawa State, visited the PJTAU Drone Academy on 29<sup>th</sup> May, 2025. During the visit, the delegates toured the Academy's state-of-the-art facilities and observed a live drone spraying demonstration at the Rice Research Unit, ARI,

Rajendranagar. The visit aimed to explore avenues for collaboration, knowledge exchange, and potential partnerships in India's dairy, livestock, and agricultural technology sectors. The engagement reflects a shared commitment to advancing agricultural innovation and strengthening international cooperation.

## Collaborations

### PJTAU and BITS Pilani Forge Strategic Partnership to Advance Digital Agriculture and Rural Innovation

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed and exchanged between Professor Jayashankar Telangana Agricultural University (PJTAU) and BITS Pilani on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2025, marking a significant step toward collaborative innovation in agriculture and rural development. The MoU was signed in the presence of Prof. Aldas Janaiah, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, PJTAU, and Prof. V. Ramgopal Rao, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, BITS Pilani Group of Institutions, along with faculty members and University officials from PJTAU. This strategic collaboration aims to promote cutting-edge scientific research, education, and technology transfer, with a strong focus on the application of digital technologies in precision agriculture. Key areas of joint initiatives include the deployment of GPS, drones, smart sensors, Artificial Intelligence (AI), Internet of Things (IoT) devices, mobile applications, blockchain technology, genomics, and e-learning platforms. The partnership is expected to drive innovations for optimizing farming practices, enhancing



*Prof. Aldas Janaiah and Prof. V. Ramgopal Rao exchanging MoU*

agricultural supply chains, climate-resilient planning, automation, and providing real-time extension services to farming communities. This MoU signifies a forward-looking alliance that bridges agricultural science and digital technology to empower farmers and advance sustainable rural development.

### PJTAU and ICAR-NMRI to Foster Innovation in Meat Science and Technology

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed on 30<sup>th</sup> May, 2025 between PJTAU and the ICAR-National Meat Research Institute (ICAR-NMRI), Hyderabad at the ICAR-NMRI campus. The agreement aims to strengthen cooperation in scientific research, education, training, and technological innovation in the field of meat science and technology. Through this collaboration, both institutions seek to generate impactful research outputs, develop

specialized services, and build a holistic ecosystem focused on meat-based product development. The partnership emphasizes cutting-edge research, entrepreneurship development, and strong industry linkages to support innovation and value addition in the meat sector. This MoU is expected to pave the way for meaningful contributions to food security, nutrition, and sustainable livestock-based livelihoods.

### Strengthening Global Academic Ties through Strategic MoUs

- Under the international partnership programme between PJTAU and Auburn University, Alabama, USA, the Government of Telangana has granted permission for PJTAU to send five students to pursue their Master's degrees with the support of an overseas fellowship. Auburn University has selected the five students, and the admission process for the Fall 2025 semester is currently underway.
- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed on 16<sup>th</sup> June, 2025 through an online ceremony between PJTAU and the University of Florida Board of



*PJTAU and Kansas State University entering into MoU*

Trustees (UF), Gainesville, Florida, USA. Through the MoU, two Universities agreed for to exchange of undergraduate and graduate students and scholars, collaborative research in areas of shared academic interest, faculty exchange for lectures, workshops, and short-term academic visits, participation of scholars in conferences, symposia, and instructional programs and exchange of academic information, materials, outreach programs, and publications.

- Prof. Aldas Janniah, Honourable Vice-Chancellor, PJTAU and Prof. P.V. Vara Prasad, Director, Crop Ecophysiology /Sustainable Intensification Innovation Lab, Kansas State University, USA entered into a formal exchange of MoU on 18<sup>th</sup> June, 2025 for collaborative research, student and faculty exchange.

This collaboration reflects PJTAU's commitment to fostering global academic engagement, enhancing research excellence, and providing international exposure to its students and faculty.

## Awards & Honours

- The Rice Research Unit, Rajendranagar, received the prestigious *Best AICRP Centre – Funded Entomology Award* for 2024–25 during the 60<sup>th</sup> Diamond Jubilee Annual Rice Group Meeting, held at the Indian Institute of Rice Research (IIRR), Rajendranagar, Hyderabad, from 26<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> April, 2025 for the commendable work done during the five years period (2019-2024) in the discipline of entomology.
- The design patent (Patent No. 377707-001) was granted on 5<sup>th</sup> May, 2025 for drone seed dispensing device on “Method and system for dispensing multi-varied seeds through multi nozzle aerial seed

dispensing device (Aerial vehicles – UAVs)” jointly developed by PJTAU, Rajendranagar and M/s. Marut Dronetech Pvt. Ltd, Hyderabad. This additional payload to drone (UAVs) offers a better return on investment to drone operator / service provider, saving in sowing time, reduce the seed rate (8-10 kg per acre) and cost of cultivation (Rs. 4000 – 5000/-) of rice.

- The Pesticide residue Laboratory (AINP on Pesticide Residues) received the Certificate for Continuation of Accreditation on 16.6.2025 on the successful completion of the accreditation process.

## Celebrations

### PJTAU Celebrates 61<sup>st</sup> Foundation Day: Honouring Legacy and Embracing Future Challenges

The 61<sup>st</sup> Foundation day of Professor Jayashankar Telangana Agricultural University was celebrated with enthusiasm on 12<sup>th</sup> June, 2025 at the University auditorium. Prof. M. Kodandaram, MLC delivered the Foundation Day address on the theme “*Glorious Legacy and Future Challenges*” which highlights the historic role of agricultural Universities in post-independence India, established to meet the country's pressing food security needs, Prof. Kodandaram acknowledged PJTAU's significant contributions, including the development of nationally recognized crop varieties, which have strengthened the state's agricultural profile. However, he urged the University to address the growing challenges faced by small and marginal farmers in Telangana and highlighted on the increasing hardships faced by small holding farmers, including unsustainable input costs, market uncertainties, and the tragic prevalence of farmer suicides. He lauded the University's “*Rythu Mungitlo Shastravettalu*” initiative as a meaningful step in that direction and recommended its continued expansion.

Prof. Aldas Janaiah, Honourable Vice-Chancellor expressed pride in celebrating this milestone during his tenure. He shared updates on several forward-looking



*Prof. M. Kodandaram delivering the foundation day address*

initiatives, including the establishment of new centers focused on Digital Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Environmental Studies to drive innovation and sustainability in Telangana's agriculture sector. Prof. Janaiah also announced the University's upcoming dual degree program with Western Sydney University, Australia, offering global exposure and cross-disciplinary learning opportunities to students. Dr. S. Raghuvardhan Reddy, Former Vice-Chancellor, ANGRAU, Sri. V. Nagi Reddy, IAS (Retd.) and Shri Pasham Yadagiri, Renowned Journalist also graced the occasion.

## International Day of Yoga celebrations with Enthusiasm at PJTAU

The NSS Unit of the College of Agriculture, Rajendranagar, celebrated the International Day of Yoga on 21<sup>st</sup> June, 2025 at the University Sports Complex, aligning with the global theme “Yoga for One Earth, One Health.” The event brought together students, faculty, and staff to promote the physical, mental, and spiritual benefits of yoga. The yoga session was led by demonstrators Sri Surendra Sanke, Sri Arun Goud, and Mr. Kiran, who demonstrated various asanas and pranayama techniques, while

explaining their health benefits. They emphasized the importance of incorporating yoga into daily routines to enhance overall well-being and encouraged participants to embrace yoga as a lifelong practice. The programme was graced by Prof. Aldas Janaiah, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of PJTAU, along with University officials, Associate Dean, College of Agriculture, Rajendranagar, NSS Programme Officers, 400 undergraduate and postgraduate students, and teaching and non-teaching staff.



*International Yoga Day celebrations at College of Agriculture, Rajendranagar and Aswaraopet*

## Gallery



*World Environment day celebrations at PJTAU*



*118<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary celebrations of Dr. Babu Jagjivan Ram on 5<sup>th</sup> April, 2025 at Agricultural College, Adilabad*



*134<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar celebrations on 14<sup>th</sup> April, 2025*



**Science meets Art: Rajendranagar Agri-students Day out at Dr.P. Kamala Prasad Rao's - Her Art Gallery, Kompally**



**Vittana Mahotsavam & Farmers - Scientist Interaction session by Agricultural Research Station, Tornala**



**Sri M. Raghunandan Rao, IAS, APC (Agriculture and Cooperation Department) and Secretary to Govt. of Telangana addressing at the pre-launch event**



**Dr. Shaik N Meera addressing the participants of SLTP of Extension**



**Dr. M. Yakadri, Director of Extension, PJTAU, addressing the farmers in Kisan Mela organized by KVK, Adilabad.**



**Dr. M. Yakadri, Director of Extension, PJTAU, Interacting with the farmers of Krishi Vignan Kendra, Kampasagar**

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