Seminar, Symposium, Meeting, Workshop etc

The Hon’ble Vice-Chancellor attended a Seminar to deliver a keynote address at Visva-Bharati to observe Gurudeb Rabindra Nath Tagore’s 150 Birthday Celebration on 17 April, 2011.

He attended and chaired the Stakeholders meeting of NRSS & LUP, Regional Centre, Kolkata for formulating the NRSS & LUP – Vision 2030 on 21 May, 2011.

He also attended a meeting with the Dutch Green Genetics delegation held on 7 June, 2011 at the Grand Hotel, Kolkata.

The venerable Vice-Chancellor attended the meeting of Sub-group on ‘HRD, Training and Accreditation’ of Planning Commission’s Working Group on Agricultural Extension for XII Plan Period held on 10 June, 2011 at Farmers’ Training Centre, BCKV, Kalyani.

He attended the fifteenth meeting of the Academic Committee of MANAGE, Hyderabad as its Member on 24 June, 2011 at Hyderabad.

He also attended the meeting on Farm Machinery Hub under the RKVY along with the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, Government of West Bengal at Gontura SKUS Ltd, Gontura, Nadia on 27 June, 2011.

Prof. TK Malty, Dr U Thapa, Dr AK Pal and Dr P Datta attended the second International Symposium on underutilized plant species: Crops for the Future – Beyond food security held at the Royale Chulan, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia during 27 June – 1 July, 2011 organized by the University of Nottingham, British Council, IFSHS, Biodiversity and Crops for the future.

Meeting of The Statutory Bodies

The Executive Council
The 218th (adjourned) meeting was held on April 25, 2011
The 219th meeting was held on June 3, 2011

The PG and UG Council
The 115th meeting of PG Council was held on May 31, 2011
The 38th meeting of UG Council was held on May 31, 2011

Rabindranath – A Luminous Luminary in the Firmament of Bengali Literature

Rabindranath is a name that ignites mind, unleashes motivation and propels resurrection of glorious past for an illuminating present. Humanity to him was renunciation of enchainment and impoverished ideas into a boundless and borderless voyage of universal citizenship, beauty to him had been the splendour of nature and bounty of passion, spirituality came to him as the pristine submission to the magnific opus of God, the bryst with cosmic expansion. On the occasion of his 150th Birth Anniversary we pay our regards and submission, respect and adoration to this everflowersering personality, the unfolding pride beyond time and space.

BCKV: Its Academic and Research Attainments

Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswavidyalaya through enactment was established in the year 1974 with the objectives of imparting education, research and extension activities in the field of agriculture and allied sciences, having its main campus located at Mohanpur, P.O. Krishnivasvidyalaya, District Nadia, West Bengal, while the Research Complex and the Farmers’ Training Centre at Kalyani, District Nadia, West Bengal.

The Faculties of the Viswavidyalaya have highly qualified professionals, trained in specialized areas of Agricultural Science and Technology with most of them holding Doctoral Degrees from the Universities in India and abroad. Well-equipped laboratories with modern instruments exist in each Department of three Faculties for practical classes and research works of the students. Each classroom is modernized with latest audio visual aids.

The core areas of activities of the university comprise the following: providing facilities for study and conducting research in agriculture, horticulture and agricultural engineering and allied subjects to develop human resource in agriculture for the state; undertaking extension education programme to disseminate need based new technologies to the farming community of West Bengal; offering appropriate technology support and consultancy/advice to the State Government for its activities for the development in the agricultural sector and so on.

There are 17 Departments under the Faculty of Agriculture. Each year 100 students are admitted to the undergraduate course. While post-graduate courses are conducted in 15 Departments, Ph.D. programmes are being offered from all the 17 Departments of the Faculty. The undergraduate curricula and courses have been revised and a few new courses have been added during 2007-2008 in due consideration of the national model, the 5th Dean’s Committee report and the emerging needs. A few new disciplines like I.T,
Agricultural Engineering. The intake capacity of students undergoing this course has been increased to 25 (twenty-five). However, the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has approved admitting 40 (forty) students at the undergraduate level. This faculty is expecting to admit 40 (forty) students in near future. So far, 11 (eleven) batches of students have passed out from the Faculty of Agricultural Engineering. BCKV and most of the students are well placed in reputed organisations in India and also abroad.

BCKV has been awarded a large number of prestigious research projects in the recent past. Some of these are enlisted below—

- Activity Area of Excellence in Arsenic Management Options – ICAR.
- Quality Control Laboratory for Horticultural Crops- Ministry of Food Processing, Government of India.
- Export Testing Laboratory- APEDA.
- Pesticide residue analysis in sugarcane and arsine contamination of the food chain – World Health Organisation (WHO).
- Regional Analytical Quality Control Laboratory of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants.
- Demonstration, Extension and Training on Water Management Technology (TOT), Government of India.
- National Agricultural Innovation Project (NAIP)-Component 3 (Rural Livelihood Security).
- NAIP -Component 4 (Basic & Strategic Research).
- Leaf Tissue Analysis Laboratory, Disease Forecasting Unit, Plant Health Clinic and Bio-Control Laboratory-under funding from the National Horticultural Mission (NHPM).
- Centre of Excellence for Potato, Vegetable and Tuber Crops – ICAR (under process).

The Viswavidyalaya has been awarded a Networking Project on Onion and Garlic.

BCKV has been chosen as a Voluntary Centre of the AICRP on Spices and as an adhoc Centre of the AICRP on Micro and Secondary Nutrients and Pollutant Elements in Soil-Plant System.

Thirteen Projects under Rastriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, Government of India—Implemented through Government of West Bengal.

The Model Value-chain of ‘Gobindabhog’ Rice Developed under RKVY Project

West Bengal has precious wealth of genetic diversity in aromatic rice. In view of great potentiality and demand of such premium rice in high-value rice market, a multi-institutional research project on “Promotion of Bengali Aromatic Rice through Improved Production and Processing System” is being implemented by BCKV, UBKV and Bose Institute since 2009.

Gobindabhog is a popular short-grain aromatic rice in the Gangetic plains of West Bengal. In order to up-scale the area of production of Gobindabhog rice; advanced production and processing technology, farmers-scientists interface and training programmes are being organized for motivation and capacity building of the stakeholders.

About 348 farmers of 6 blocks (viz. Chakdah, Harinaghat, Ranaghat I, Ranaghat II, Santipur and Krishnapur) cultivated Gobindabhog rice in about 651 bigha of land during kharif season of 2010. The farmers of different co-operatives, trusts, self-help groups, etc. regularly visit our University with their produce and get the paddy milled at Paddy Processing Centre, Faculty of Agricultural Engineering, Mohanpur, Nadia for packaging of quality rice. These Gobindabhog rice packets have been sold to various customers through Agricultural Technology Information Centre (ATIC) counter of the Directorate of Extension Education, BCKV and sale counter of Ushagram Trust, Nadia during 2010-11 and continued during 2011-12. In addition, Cooperatives, Trusts, Farmers’ Groups, etc. have taken initiatives to promote Gobindabhog through sale of rice packets in different fairs organized in South Bengal districts of West Bengal during 2011.

Thus, a model value-chain system for Gobindabhog rice has been developed during the course of RKVY project work, which needs active support and cooperation from the Farmers’ Groups, Rice Millers, Marketing Agencies / Companies, BCKV Scientists, Government Departments etc. for long-term sustainability and future up-scaling.

A notification issued by Rajya Sabha Secretariat was published in National dailies on 23.10.2010 for inviting views, comments, suggestions, etc. on “Export promotion schemes pertaining to agricultural and processed food products’ from individuals or organizations of the country. Dr. Mithunjoy Ghosh, Associate Professor and Principal Investigator of RKVY Project presented a proposal on “Promotional Strategy for Export of Bengali Aromatic Rice (‘Gobindabhog’ and