



NEWS LETTER



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FOURTEENTH CONVOCATION OF TANUVAS



The XIV convocation of TANUVAS was held on Friday, the 18th March 2011 at the University Centenary Auditorium, University of Madras, Chennai. His Excellency Shri. Surjit Singh Barnala, the Governor of Tamil Nadu and the Chancellor of the University presided and conferred degrees to 625 candidates (461 in person and 164 in absentia). Dr. R. Prabakaran, Vice-chancellor, TANUVAS delivered the welcome address. In his welcome address, the Vice-chancellor elaborated about various developments and achievements in the areas of education, research and extension. He emphasised that the University was working towards the upliftment of the poor and downtrodden of our society by improving the productivity and profitability in livestock, poultry and fish farming thereby ensuring food security. The Vice-chancellor mentioned that the University had started PG Diploma programme in Diversified Poultry Production, M.V.Sc. in Veterinary Bio-chemistry and M.V.Sc. and Ph.D. in Veterinary Public Health, introduced soft skills and personality development programmes, started a new Department of Livestock Business Management and signed agreements with Auburn University, Arizona University and Virginia Tech of USA to enhance the quality of education. In addition MoU was signed with Remount Veterinary Corps of the Indian Army to train Army Veterinary Officers in advanced diagnostics and surgical techniques at TANUVAS and TANUVAS students in breeding, management of horses and dogs at various stud farms and breeding units of the army. One of the benchmarks of the University is its international recognition for teaching, training and research. During the year of report, eight students from Michigan State University, USA, nine students from Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine, USA and 45 students from Chittagong Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Bangladesh had undergone training in clinical subjects and tropical animal diseases. The meritorious final B.V.Sc. & A.H. and B.Tech. students visited Michigan State University and Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine and Nebraska University of USA respectively. The Vice-chancellor also informed that the students excelled in various national level competitive examinations and brought laurels to the university. He proudly brought to lime light the Silver Jubilee Celebrations of VC & RI, Namakkal during 2010.

On the research front, the Vice-Chancellor stated that the University had attracted funding to the tune of ₹983 lakhs through 46 research projects. Five research projects were sanctioned by International agencies like Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council, UK, GALVMed, UK and International Foundation for Science, Sweden, which exemplified the strong research base and research capabilities of the constituent colleges and constituent units. The Vice-chancellor pointed out some of the significant contributions of the University in augmenting animal production and improving health of the animals such as evolving Namakkal Chicken 1, a disease resistant layer strain; formulation of area specific mineral mixtures; development of a multivalent bluetongue vaccine; sequencing of full-length genome of five isolates of Newcastle disease virus; a latex bead based agglutination test assay for Chicken Anaemia and Marek's disease and the development of a Nano-NDV-marker vaccine. A total of 13 patent applications for the products / technologies developed were filed and the first patent for TANUVAS has been obtained for the invention to detect antibodies against *peste des petits ruminant virus*.



In the extension outreach services, he mentioned that the University is working towards sustainable livelihood of farmers, farm women, rural youth, school dropouts, Self Help Groups and others through the 23 peripheral centres viz., FTCs, KVKs, RRC, SRRC and VUTRCs. He proudly announced that KVK, Kattupakkam, won the national award for the best KVK in the country and Her Excellency, the President of India Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil presented the award certificate.

The Vice-Chancellor also listed out some of the significant infrastructure facilities created during the reporting period such as a new building for Centralised University Laboratory, Avian Disease Laboratory, Animal Feed Analytical and Quality Assurance Laboratory, students hostel etc., at a total cost of ₹659 lakhs and mentioned that the clinical facility of the university is rated as the best in the country.

Dr. Arvind Kumar, Deputy Director General (Education), Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, the Chief Guest, in his convocation address appreciated the vision of the university in starting B.Tech. (FPT) programme and emphasized that extension education and delivery system play important roles to make the livestock products quality specific and cost effective and that the extension system must be empowered to deliver (i) right technology and methodology, (ii) market information and intelligence through ICT, (iii) sensitization training of extension functionaries to improve their technical knowledge and skills, (iv) training on fair average quality standards for livestock products and (v) promoting entrepreneurship and empowering them with export standards and phytosanitary requirements.





While congratulating the new graduates he cautioned that it is the time to face the reality of life and requested them to develop holistic personalities by enriching themselves with confidence, commitment, creativity and clarity and to translate the acquired knowledge to become job providers rather than job seekers.



During the convocation "Dr.V.Gnanaprakasam, Former Vice-chancellor, TANUVAS Fellowship" for pursuing M.V.Sc. in Wildlife Science, "Dr.N.Natarajan and Tmt.Lakshmi Natarajan Endowment Gold Medal" for the post-graduate student securing the highest OGPA in Animal Science subjects "Dr.P.Thangaraju, Former Vice-chancellor, TANUVAS Endowment Award" for the best Ph.D. research work in Wildlife Science and for the best B.V.Sc. & A.H. student in Wildlife Science; "Aranganur Thiru A.Rajamanickam Teacher Endowment Gold Medal" for the best student in I year B.V.Sc. & A.H. course and Omalur Tmt.T.Navaneetham Teacher Endowment Gold Medal for the best B.Tech. (FPT) student in subjects of Dairy Products and by-products, Poultry and Egg Products and Processing Technology were instituted. Dr. C. Balachandran, Registrar, TANUVAS presented 71 candidates to the Chancellor for the award of 176 medals. The highlight of the event was the presentation of 28 medals to Miss. Anusha Balakrishnan for her outstanding academic performance in B.V.Sc. & A.H. course.



WORKSHOP ON "STRATEGIES FOR COST REDUCTION IN DAIRY CATTLE FEEDING"

A workshop on "Strategies for cost reduction in dairy cattle feeding" was conducted on 08.03.2011 at MVC to sensitize the extension workers and veterinarians on the scope for reducing the cost of feeding dairy cattle. A total of 85 participants comprising of delegates from TANUVAS and Department of Animal Husbandry, Government of Tamil Nadu including seven farmers. Dr. R. Prabakaran, Vice-chancellor, TANUVAS presided over the inaugural function. Dr. S.R. Srinivasan, Dean i/c., MVC and Dr. D. Thyagarajan, Director, CAPS, TANUVAS felicitated. A manual on "Gateway to fodder production for profitable dairy farming" and interactive CD on "Precision fodder cultivation" were released at the inaugural function by Tmt. M.P. Nirmala, I.A.S., Secretary to the Government of Tamil Nadu, Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries Department and Thiru. M.R. Mohan, I.A.S., Commissioner, Department of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services respectively. Dr. D. Chandrasekaran, Professor and Head, Department of Animal Nutrition, VC&RI, Namakkal provided hands on training on the software developed by him to reduce the cost of feeding. Dr. M. Murugan, Professor and Head, VUTRC, Dharmapuri, explained the role of unconventional feed resources in reducing the cost of feeding.



SIXTH SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

KVK, Namakkal conducted its sixth Scientific Advisory Committee meeting on 24.03.2011. The meeting was chaired by Dr. R. Prabakaran, Vice-chancellor, TANUVAS. Twenty-two Scientific Advisory Committee members including Dr.D. Kathiresan, Director of Extension Education, TANUVAS, Chennai, Dr.S. Prabhukumar, Zonal Project



Director (Zone-VIII), ICAR, Bangalore, Dr.D. Chandrasekaran, Dean i/c, VC&RI, Namakkal and Dr.S. Manickam, Programme Co-ordinator, KVK, Sandhiyur and all the line department officials were present in the meeting. Dr. B. Mohan, Programme Co-ordinator, KVK, Namakkal welcomed the SAC members and presented the action taken report of the fifth SAC meeting and work done during 2010-11. Dr.S. Prabhukumar, Zonal Project Director (Zone-VIII), ICAR, Bangalore released the technical hand book on Agriculture / Horticulture / Animal Husbandry / Fisheries technologies suitable for Namakkal district. The Director of Extension Education, TANUVAS, Chennai released the Record note book for desi bird farming. The Vice-chancellor, TANUVAS released the Fodder cultivation hand book and started the Kissan mobile service facilities for farmers at KVK, Namakkal and awarded the best farmers of Namakkal district. Thiru. S. Alagudurai, Subject Matter Specialist (Agronomy), KVK, Namakkal thanked the gathering.

TRAINING ON STATISTICAL TOOLS FOR SOCIAL SCIENTISTS

A training programme on "Statistical Tools for Social Scientists" sponsored by TNSCT, Chennai and NCSTC, New Delhi was organized by the Department of Veterinary and Animal Husbandry Extension and Entrepreneurship, Madras Veterinary College, Chennai from 23.03.2011 to 25.03.2011. A total 21 participants from Veterinary and Fisheries Extension and Economics faculty of MVC, Chennai, VC&RI, Namakkal, University campus, KVKs and FC&RI, Thoothukudi, attended. The valedictory programme was presided over by Dr. R. Prabakaran, Vice-chancellor, TANUVAS on 25.03.2011, Dr.V. Venkatasubramanian, Assistant Director General (AE), ICAR, New Delhi offered valedictory address and distributed certificates to the participants. Dr. S. R. Srinivasan, Dean i/c, Madras Veterinary College delivered felicitation address. Dr. P. Mathialagan, Course Co-ordinator and Professor and Head, Department of Veterinary and Animal Husbandry Extension and Entrepreneurship, Madras Veterinary College presented the training report.



INAUGURATION OF "SYNTHETIC FIBER-LINED FISH PONDS"

Dr. R.Prabakaran, Vice-chancellor, inaugurated the newly created "Advanced Aquaculture Farm Facility" at the Fisheries Research and Extension Centre campus, University Headquarters, Madhavaram on 30.03.2011. This farm facility consisted of two synthetic fiber-lined ponds. The ponds will be managed by a "semi-biofloc system" based operation. The Vice-chancellor also stocked one of the ponds with Penaeid shrimp seeds and the other one was stocked with raceway reared – koi seeds by Dr. C. Balachandran, Registrar, Dr.B. Murali Manohar, Director, CAHS, other University officers and Heads of the Units of the Madhavaram campus also attended the event. The facilities were created under the NADP scheme on "Establishment of Scampi Farming Demo Unit" at Madhavaram.



VICE-CHANCELLOR VISIT

Dr. R. Prabakaran, Vice-chancellor, TANUVAS, Chennai visited VUTRC, Coimbatore on 05.03.2011 and also visited a commercial goat farm owned by Thiru. I. Nazar of Kattoipalayam village, Coimbatore which was started under the technical guidance of VUTRC, Coimbatore. The Vice-chancellor appreciated the farmer for his efforts in fodder production and advised him on the breeding management techniques to be adopted for successful goat farming.





RARE VIDEO DOCUMENTARY ON SHARKS RELEASED

The Consortium Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting of the National Agricultural Innovation Project (NAIP) on "Toll-like receptors in phylogenetically divergent fish species – their contribution in modulating the innate immunity" was held at the Institute of Life Science, Bhubaneswar on 02.03.2011. On this occasion, a documentary film entitled "Sharks – An immunologist delight" prepared by the Department of Animal Bio-technology, MVC, Chennai under the above project was released by Dr.C. Balachandran, Registrar, TANUVAS in the presence of Dr.A.E. Eknath, Director and Consortium Leader, Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture, Bhubaneswar and Dr.B. Ravindran, Director and CAC Chairman of the project, Institute of Life Science, Bhubaneswar. This documentary highlights the maintenance of sharks by mimicking the marine environment, its mating behavior and histology studies. This is a rare documentary on captive breeding of sharks and its immunological evolution.



TRAINING PROGRAMME ON "IN-VITRO FERTILIZATION AND EMBRYO CO-CULTURE"

A national level training programme on "In-vitro fertilization and embryo co-culture" was conducted at Centralized Embryo Biotechnology Unit, Department of Animal Biotechnology, MVC, Chennai for three weeks from 27.01.2011 to



16.02.2011. Dr.S.R. Srinivasan, Dean, Faculty of Basic Sciences, MVC inaugurated the training programme on 27.01.2011. Dr. K. Kumanan, Professor and Head, Department of Animal Biotechnology and Dr. A. Palanisamy, Professor and Course Director, highlighted about the training programme. A total of fifteen participants from Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Kerala and Tamil Nadu participated. The training programme comprised of hands on training on various aspects of IVF and guest lectures by eminent experts viz., Dr. Kamala Selvaraj, Associate Director, G.G. Hospital, Chennai, Dr.D. Dakshayani, Senior Consultant, Biloorth Hospital, Chennai, Dr.R. Jayanthi, Consultant, Reproductive Medicine, Madras Andrology Research Centre, Numgambakkam, Chennai and Dr.Priya Kannan, Karpaga Rakshambigai Infertility Centre, Chennai.

TRAINING PROGRAMME ON PREPARATION OF VALUE ADDED FISHERY PRODUCTS

NADP Project entitled "Technology adoption and empowerment of coastal fisher women on value addition of fishery resources" implemented in the Department of Fish Processing Technology, FC & RI, Thoothukudi aims to train 450 coastal women in 15 training programmes all along the coast of Tamil Nadu. Two production units were established and started to produce value added fishery products. The first training programme was inaugurated at Mandapam on 07.02.2011. Dr. V.K. Venkatramani, Director of Research and Extension (Fisheries) presided. Thiru. Kannabiran, Assistant General Manager, NABARD was the chief guest. Thiru. Sadagopan, Manager, Lead Bank and Thiru. Ilangovan, Director, Aqua Clinic Centre – an NGO, attended. Thirty women were trained on the preparation of value added fish products. Thiru. Sundararajan, Manager, Bank of India distributed the certificates and stipend to the beneficiaries. A total of six trainings were held benefiting 180 participants from Mandapam, Kovalam, Idinthakarai, Keechankuppam and Athirampattinam. Thiru. Dr. K. Rathnakumar, Professor and Principal Investigator, Dr. S.A. Shanmugam, Dr. M. Raja Kumar, Dr. K. Ravanewaran, Associate Professors and Co-Principal Investigators organized and conducted the above training programmes.



TNSCST SPONSORED WORKSHOP ON LIFE FOOD ENRICHMENT

VUTRC, Dharmapuri, conducted a Tamil Nadu State Council for Science and Technology sponsored workshop on "Production of enriched fish live food organism – an eco-friendly technology for socio-economic development of ornamental fish farmers between 28.02.2011 and 02.03.2011. The programme was presided by Dr. M. Murugan, Professor and Head, VUTRC, Dharmapuri and inaugurated by Dr. V. K. Venkataramani, Director of Research and Extension, (Fisheries) Fisheries College and Research Institute, Thoothukudi. A total of 86 members including ornamental fish farmers, SHG members and research students attended the programme. Lecture on "Importance and production of enriched live food" was delivered by Dr. V.K. Venkataramani. A manual on "Production of enriched fish live food organisms – An eco-friendly technology for socio-economic development of ornamental fish farmers" was released. Certificate for the beneficiaries was distributed by Dr. Mani, Professor and Head, Regional Research Station, TNAU, Paiyur. The Principal-Investigator Dr. P. Chidambaram, Assistant Professor and the Co-Principal Investigators Dr.K. Ravanewaran, Associate Professor and Dr. Cheryl Antony, Associate Professor, Fisheries Research and Extension Centre, Chennai organized the workshop.



PHARMACEUTICAL MEET

A pharmaceutical meet was organised by the Department of Veterinary Pharmacology and Toxicology, MVC, Chennai for the outgoing students of B.V.Sc. & A.H., (2006 -07 batch) on 15.03.2011. A total of 106 students participated and interacted with pharmaceutical companies viz., M/s. Intas Pharmaceuticals Ltd., M/s. Zydus Animal Health Ltd., M/s. Virbac Animal Health India (P) Ltd., M/s. Natural Remedies (P) Ltd., M/s. Bayer Pharmaceuticals (P) Ltd., and M/s. Provimi Nutrition India (P) Ltd., (Pet care Therapeutics division). Dr. P. Hariharan, Professor and Head, Department of Veterinary Pharmacology and Toxicology welcomed the gathering. Dr.S.R. Srinivasan, Dean i/c., MVC and Dr.S. Prathaban, Director of Clinics, TANUVAS delivered the felicitation address. Dr. K.V. Venkateswaran, Professor, Department of Veterinary Pharmacology & Toxicology, MVC, Chennai proposed the vote of thanks.

TRAINING PROGRAMME ON PERSONALITY DEVELOPMENT AND BUSINESS MOTIVATION

A one day training programme on "Personality Development and Business Motivation" was jointly organized by the Department of Livestock Business Management, MVC, Chennai and Sanjivini Human Resources Institute, Chennai on 26.03.2011 at MVC. A total of 36 B.V.Sc and A.H and 15 B.Tech (FPT) students including 18 girls participated. The training was inaugurated by Dr.S.R. Srinivasan, Dean i/c, MVC. Training comprised of sessions like self-awareness, personality development, competence development, business motivation and yoga. Dr. B. Suresh Subramanian, Associate Professor and Head, Dr. P. Tensingh Gnanaraj, Associate Professor and Dr. G. Senthil Kumar Assistant Professor, Department of Livestock Business Management, MVC organized the programme.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATIONS

❖ International Women's Day was celebrated at Fisheries College and Research Institute, Thoothukudi on 08.03.2011. Dr. M. Nagoor Meeran, Professor and Head welcomed the gathering. Dr. L.N. Mathuram, Professor and Head, Education Technology Cell, MVC, Chennai was the Chief Guest and delivered a special lecture. Two woman fisheries entrepreneurs, Tmt. Alfonza, Thoothukudi and Tmt. Innasi, Vellapatti briefed on the status of the fisherwomen and shared their experience in establishing the pickle and prawn production self-employment units. Dr. M.C. Nandeesh,





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Dean, FC & RI, Thoothukudi delivered the presidential address and Dr. N.V. Sujathkumar, Associate Professor, Department of Fisheries Extension proposed the vote of thanks.

❖ KVK, Kattupakkam celebrated International Women's Day on 16.03.2011 at KVK campus. 52 women Self Help Group members participated. Tmt. Anila Kingsley, Assistant Director of Horticulture, Kattangulathur, delivered special address on the role of women in farm activities and importance of kitchen gardening. Tmt. N. Renuga, Assistant Director, Fisheries and Tmt. Indira Pandian, Self Help Group President, Maraimalai Nagar participated. Dr. P. Kumaravel, Associate Professor and Head, KVK, Kattupakkam and Dr. S. Balasundari, Associate Professor highlighted the activities of the centre.



CAPACITY BUILDING ON APPROPRIATE LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGIES

Capacity building on Appropriate Livestock Production Technologies was conducted from 14th -16th March 2011 and 16th -18th March 2011 at Chickanaikentalayam and Vandinatham villages of Namakkal district under ICAR Network project entitled "Enhancing Livelihood of Rural Women through Livestock Production" by the Department of Veterinary and Animal Husbandry Extension, VC&RI, Namakkal. 85 farmers from Chickanaikentalayam village and 65 farmers from Vandinatham village participated. Demonstrations were carried out on azolla cultivation, milking machine and chaff cutter. The participants were taken to VC&RI livestock and agronomy farms for field visits.



WORLD VETERINARY YEAR 2011 CELEBRATION

VUTRC, Coimbatore celebrated the World Veterinary year 2011 on 14.03.2011. A Technical meeting on the NADP Project entitled 'Genetic upgradation of cattle and buffaloes in Tamil Nadu: Adoption and oestrus synchronization technique to improve the productive and reproductive potential' for the field veterinarians of Coimbatore district was organized to mark the occasion. The Regional Joint director of the Department of Animal Husbandry Coimbatore, Dr. M. Elanchezian presided over the function. Dr. C. Veerapandian, Professor and Head, Department of Animal Reproduction, Gynecology and Obstetrics, MVC, Veterinary Assistant Surgeons of the Animal Husbandry Department, Coimbatore and veterinarians from Aavin, Coimbatore participated in the celebration.



ATMA SCHEME PROGRAMME

VUTRC, Karur conducted a capacity building training programme on "Scientific Management of dairy cattle and fodder production on 28.03.2011 to 15 progressive livestock farmers of Andipattikottai village of Aravakuruchi block, Karur district under ATMA scheme.



AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS

Awareness campaigns on "Balanced feeding in dairy cattle and Prevention and control of diseases" were conducted at Palanaikentalayam and Avinasipatti villages of Namakkal district on 15.03.2011 and 16.03.2011 respectively by the Department of Veterinary and Animal Husbandry Extension, VC&RI, Namakkal as part of World Veterinary Year 2011 celebrations. Around 175 farmers have participated in the campaigns. Scientific exhibition and discussion forums were also organized during the programme.



AWARDS

Dr. V. Balakrishnan, Professor and Head, Department of Animal Nutrition, Madras Veterinary College was awarded Dr. Vaithilingam Rathnasabapathy Innovation Scientist award during the 14th Convocation of TANUVAS.



Dr. P. Kumaravel, Associate Professor and Head, KVK, Kattupakkam was conferred with the Maruthamuthu Mariyayee Best Teacher Award for the year 2010 during the 14th Convocation of TANUVAS.



Dr. K.G. Tirumurugan, Associate Professor, Department of Animal Biotechnology, MVC was conferred with the Dr. Unnikrishna Menon Memorial TANSANUUVAS Award for the year 2008 - 2009 during the 14th Convocation of TANUVAS.



SUPERANNUATION

Dr. G. Indira Jasmine, Professor, Department of Fish Processing and Technology, FC&RI, Thoothukudi, retired on superannuation on 31.03.2011. She had put in a total service of 34 years and 11 months.



Thiru. P. Malaichamy, Administrative Officer, FC&RI, Thoothukudi retired on superannuation on 31.03.2011. He had put in a total service of 34 years and 9 months.



Tmt. N. Pushparani, Superintendent, Registrar's Office, TANUVAS retired on superannuation on 31.03.2011. She had put in a total service of 23 years and 8 months.

