From Vice-Chancellor’s Desk...

AAU UDARN (Flying)

Last ten years I have been writing on different topics in this VC page for the purpose of knowledge and information sharing among the agricultural fraternity. Seldom I touched the inner core of the university, AAU. We in this part of the country, admire and love the university called Assam Agricultural University which has been growing amidst several challenges ranging from financial to inner people made crisis. Experiences have shown that one can meet the external challenges if one remains united but the problem is with the issues jealously created by a handful of beneficiaries of the University themselves that too for their own ego and aspirations not being satisfied under a particular regime. I had both the privileges i.e. dealing with the external forces which were very few and trying to handle the internal ones. Ten years journey as you know is long enough a period to experience both good and bad. Some reminiscence of that journey I wish to record for posterity in my last message in this news letter.

I inherited a University which was dilapidated, fund starved and a de-motivated lot of people. Salary was never received on time and the teachers and other employees were using the used papers for making envelopes for posting of official letters. Some buildings were tilted as if they will fall to the ground if hit by a storm. Laboratory and farms were inviting a healing hand. Fresh recruitment and promotions of staff were far cries. The government was worried about the future of the University. Relationship of the University with the line departments, farming community and others was very weak. Research projects were limited and the PG students had to arrange laboratory chemical etc by themselves. Some committed faculties either did not receive the needed support to transform their ideas into practices or had left the university to serve other institutions. I had two options before me: (1) To curse myself for accepting the responsibility that too after working as the Dy. DG of ICAR through which I was helping the Universities including AAU and research institutions with fund and projects and (2) Take the challenge of reforming the University - the university of which I myself was a product. I opted for the 2nd option and started with a SWOT analysis of the University. Amidst the haves not as indicated above, I identified the grey areas that had exploratory potential for growth and started working on them after identifying the faculty and staff interested in bringing in a change in the overall business of the University.

Gradually but steadily, the things started falling in place - thanks to the state government and also to ICAR for their committed support for which the university could earn the accreditation within a year, the employees started getting their dues in time, farm and laboratory facilities including that in the class rooms and hostels started wearing new and comfortable looks, the teachers and employees found a rejuvenated zeal to contribute their share of pie. New facilities like International hostels, sports complex, guest houses, ICT use in class rooms, automation in the library with increased books and journal strengths etc were created. Addition of 2 Centres - DBT-AAU centre and ADMAc centre at Jorhat and Khanapara campuses with the support of DBT, Govt. of India had paved the way for 21st century research in molecular sciences. Similarly, establishment of an agricultural business hub with a linked state of the art Auditorium at Khanapara with the funding support of NEC, State Government and ICAR shall position the University to leverage the benefit from the upcoming Act East Policy initiative of Govt. of India. Establishment of an agri-incubation centre at Jorhat with the funding support of NITI Aayog and Ministry of Agriculture, Govt. of India shall go a long way in preparing our aspiring agriculturists with the required amount of skills and agri-preneurships. Four numbers of old colleges (Fisheries, Community science, BNCA and LCVCs) were completely rebuild and another 3 new colleges (Horticulture, Sericulture and Agriculture

Assam Agricultural University
Jorhat 785013
at Dhubri) were established and made functional. Approval for a Dairy Science College, Agroforestry college, another horticulture college and an agricultural university at Barak Valley was also received, sites identified and hopefully they will be taken up by my successor thus taking the University to an enviable heights.

This Udan of the University also brought quite a visible accolades to the University in the form of awards and recognitions. The teachers and scientists including those from our KVK system bagged several awards both individually and collectively. To name a few, awards like Fakaruddin Ali Ahmed Award, Norman Borlaug Chair, Best KVK Awards by 4 KVKs, Best Centre awards for NICRA, Rice, Arthropod, Honey Bee, Potato etc. were received. Topping the award list was the Sardar Patel Outstanding Award of ICAR which was given away by the Hon’ble Prime Minister of India in the year 2015. Not only the teachers, the students of the University also bagged Best Student award of All India Agricultural Universities Student Association consecutively for 3 years besides receiving best paper award etc.

One of the highly satisfactory progresses was the academic and research collaboration of the University with many fore runner Universities in the globe. The students of the University were sent to 7 outstanding universities of European Union for both exposure visit and study purposes, they were also sent for a month long training to Universities like Cornell and others in USA, Thailand, Philippines. The teachers and scientists were sent for training and exposure visits to overseas countries and quite a significant number of national and international seminars were arranged in the University to attract others to the ambience and work culture of AAU. Admission of students from 7 different countries was another attraction and means to spread the fragrance of the University across the globe. The number of admission seekers in the University went up from a mere 640 to a whopping 15,000 a year with a cut off percentage of 89 percent. A remarkable step to support the economically poor students of the University was taken on monthly basis with the interest earned from the fixed deposit of University receipts.

On research output front, the University could develop and screen as many as 52 new crop varieties and 3 animal/poultry varieties besides a cell cultured swine fever vaccine through around 252 research projects funded by outside agencies after being convinced of the University’s renewed capacity and competitiveness. The two Veterinary Research Stations at Mandira and Byrnihat which were to be closed as per noting of the earlier authority, were completely revived and brought to lime lights. The High Tech V type nursery and many green/ shed net houses helped the University to produce quality planting materials in addition to the tissue cultured planting materials. Advanced breeding of fish under green house set up was considered a novel approach introduced by the University. The University also found a place in India Book of record for collecting maximum number of white grub insects within a specified time. In addition to these and others, the University collected, collated and developed a knowledge repository through documentation of its journey besides documenting its yearly progress in the annual reports which was not regular Earlier. Several policy papers, road maps were developed and submitted to the state government for taking the sector forward. A nicely drawn up Vision document has also been prepared for the onward march of the university.

An urgent need of winning the confidence of the farmers and other stakeholders was felt as the university was confined almost within its 4 walls. As a first step towards it, a technology showcasing drive was initiated at farmers’ fields with their involvement. This step had convincingly established the power of technology in increasing the production and productivity of rice and oilseeds and was enough to win back the confidence of the farmers. Thereafter, several programs were taken up at village, district and state level through the 23 numbers of KVKs attached to the university. Several farmers groomed and upgraded by these KVKs received national, regional and state awards. The KVK scientists and staff rendered yeoman’s services in bringing about the much longed for visibility of the university and I leave a special word of thanks to them.

In the man power front, this was the period after around 20 years that the University witnessed fresh recruitments in teaching, scientific and even technical and
administrative positions. Employees promotion matter which was kept in abeyance for a long period was attended to and even the service rules for certain cadres which were not framed was freshly framed and those cadres promoted. Regularisation of the Master Roll Workers was the last milestone achieved. Increase in the superannuation age of professors from 60 to 65 years was a remarkable achievement by any standard specially when the teachers were trying to get it enhanced to 62 years. On financial front, the University is in a sound footing today with guaranteed salaries upto March, 2020 and pension and other dues cleared in the last budget session.

This Udam of the University has to be sustained and nurtured and the 'Add Ons' to be contiguously added in terms of good management, trust building, adding fuel to the motivation fire of its rank and files, periodic revisit of the Vision Document, finding newer tools, technologies, means and methodologies to address farmers' distress, responding to the call of the government, industries and other stakeholders to keep the sector upfront and preparing the university to leverage the benefits from the policies like Act East while tightening the overseas collaboration.

I must make a special mention of the support and confidence that I received from the Board of Management and the Academic Council of the University in pushing forward the growth agenda. A mention must be made of the highly proactive support that the University received from the press and media, particularly the Jorhat based ones during the period. It was as if they also owned the University and desired its hassle free march ahead. The period was also known as the agitation free period as the issues were sorted out amicably. The love, affection, confidence and support that I received from the students, faculty and all other staff was a special gift which no life time achievement award can match.

I wish our dearest university the Best, the Very Best and All the Best in its march forward.

(K M Bujharbaruah)

Important meetings attended by the Vice-Chancellor

- Attended "Zero Budget Based Organic Agriculture Event" at Kurukshetra as desired by Hon'ble Governor on Oct. 7, 2018
- Attended a high power committee meeting of Exprt Group of Agrinnovate India Limited at Prithvi Bhawan, New Delhi as invited by the Principal Scientific Advisor of Gol. on Oct. 22, 2018
- Attended Farmers' Day Programme at RARS, Titorbar on Nov. 10, 2018
- Attended the IAUA's Golden Jubilee International Conference on Nov. 23-25, 2018 at Pusa campus, New Delhi
- Participated in the APAARI Executive Body Meeting & Seminar at Taipei in Taiwan on Dec. 19-21, 2018
- Attended SITA Governing Body Meeting at Dispur on Jan. 18, 2019
- Attended Farmers' meeting organized by KAAS at Hojai on Jan. 20, 2019
- Chaired Research Advisory Committee (RAC) meeting of KVK, Golaghat at the Circuit House on Jan. 24, 2019
- Attended the National Agribusiness Entrepreneurship Conclave as the Guest of Honour at ICAR Complex, Umiam, Barapani on Feb. 9, 2019
- Attended Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) meeting of KVK, Kamrup on Feb. 14, 2019
- Attended Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) meeting of KVK, Golaghat on Feb. 24, 2019
- Attended the International Seminar on "Animal Agriculture for Doubling Farmers' Income: at CVSc, Khanapara on Feb. 27, 2019
- Attended Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) meeting of KVK, Morigaon on Mar. 14, 2019
XXVII National Conference on Soil Conservation held

The 27th National Conference of Soil Conservation Society of India on Sustainable Management of Soil and Water Resources for Doubling Farmers Income was held on Oct. 25-27, 2018 at the Dr. M. C. Das Memorial Auditorium, AAU, Jorhat. Sjt. Atul Bora, State Minister of Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal Husbandry and Town and Country Planning graced the inaugural function as the Chief Guest and Hon’ble Vice Chancellor, AAU, Dr. K. M. Bujharbaruah acted as the Guest of Honour.

Agril. Minister, Sjt. Bora stated that “Green Revolution might have made India a food sufficient country from a food deficient one but there was a growing realisation that this had been at the cost of soil and water depletion due to injudicious use of chemical fertilisers, pesticides and weedicides. Farmers’ incomes could not be doubled by 2022 without food production and their base being soil and water being made healthy. This holds truer for Assam where erosion and floods take a bigger toll.”

He asked the scientists of AAU to be associated with the 103 schemes recently launched by the State Water Resources Department in 23 districts at a cost of Rs 389.90 crores to tackle erosion and floods.

Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Bujharbaruah said that for years people had been “misusing and misutilising” the soil and the time was ripe for finding ways to restore the soil health.

“The conference, it is hoped would formulate research projects and strategies which would aim at conserving and managing our soil and water resources,” he said. Dr. Bujharbaruah said that till now 350 billion tonnes of carbon had been depleted from the hard soil and another 300 billion tonnes of soil had been depleted.

Dr. Bujharbaruah further said that some European countries and China had mapped the soil health of their countries and were ready to come out with a soil App. Something of that kind could be done here, he opined. He also mentioned about 10 startups with which he was in touch were run by engineers who were doing good work in this sphere.

Dr. Suraj Bhan, President, Soil Conservation Society of India, while narrating the establishment of the Society in 1951 and its varied activities including analysing the soil health and data regarding deprivations of the soil in the entire nation, urged upon scientists and students of the varsity to join the Society as members so that their objective could be fulfilled.

Altogether 26 scientists from across the country were awarded by Soil Conservation Society of India like Lifetime Achievement Award, National Fellow, Honorary Membership Award, Gold Medals, Leadership Award, etc.

A souvenir and Book of Abstracts were released on the occasion. Dr. Bipul Deka and Dr. Mahesh Gogoi of Soil Science Dept. of the University were awarded for soil conservation efforts and leadership in this sphere.
International Symposium on Biotechnology for Food-Nutritional Security & Organic Agriculture

The North East Centre for Agricultural Biotechnology (DBT-NECAB) operating through Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat organized the first International Symposium on Biotechnology for Food-Nutritional Security & Organic Agriculture during Mar. 2-26, 2019. The symposium was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Prof. K. M. Bujarbaruah as the Chief Guest and Prof. N K Singh, ICAR-National Professor (B P Pal Chair) and Director, NRCPB, New Delhi, was the Guest of Honour, in presence of well-known educationist and scientist Padmashree Prof. S. K. Sopory, Ex. Vice Chancellor, JNU, New Delhi and eminent scientist Prof. Douglas Cook, Director, Feed and Future Innovation Lab, U C Davis, USA.

In his inaugural address, Prof. Bujarbaruah emphasised that the symposium has been designed as a promising platform for interaction of students, researchers, faculty members, scientists and leaders in the field of Agricultural Biotechnology. He also said it is an opportunity to initiate new avenues of collaboration for the scientific community to meet food and nutritional security as well as promote organic agriculture.

“Agricultural biotechnology contributes to both environmental and economical sustainability. Farmers choose biotech crops because they increase yield and lower production costs” said Cook.

On the other hand Prof. Sopory, in his keynote address, enlightened the audience about biotechnological solutions to develop stress-tolerant crops to alleviate the impact of climate change on agriculture.

Prof B K Sarmah, ICAR National Professor (Norman Borlaug Chair) and Director DBT-NECAB, gave his welcome address in the inaugural ceremony and expressed that it is extremely encouraging for scientific research to have over hundred competing abstracts from across India including the North East and around the globe including the USA, Australia and Europe. Prof. Sarmah immensely thanked the Department of Biotechnology, Gol, New Delhi for generously allocating funds for organizing a symposium of this scale and hoped a global perspective to pressing issues of hunger and malnutrition could help address the issues scientifically.

The symposium included discussions and brainstorming sessions on various issues of Food Nutrition and Organic Farming. The research works presented by invited speakers enlightened the participants. Simultaneously with technical sessions, a Poster Competition was organised where more than eighty participants presented posters related to their research work.

"Best AICRP (Agrometeorology) Center Award" bagged by AAU

The Jorhat centre of All India Coordinated Research Project on Agrometeorology has been adjudged as the Best Centre for the year 2017-18 based on its overall performance. Dr. Bondita Goswami, PI of the project received the Award in the Biennial Workshop of AICRP on Agrometeorology held during Nov. 15-17, 2018 at Vijayapura Campus of UAS, Dharwad, Karnataka.
International Seminar on Animal Agriculture

An International Seminar on "Animal Agriculture for Doubling Farmers’ Income: Technology, Policy and Strategy Options" was held at College of Veterinary Science, AAU, Khanapara on Feb. 27-28, 2019. The seminar was organised as a part of Golden Jubilee Year Celebration of Assam Agricultural University. The inaugural session was graced by the Hon'ble Governor of Assam, Professor Jagdish Mukhi as Chief Guest; Sri Shyam Jagannathan, IAS, Commissioner & Secretary, Animal Husbandry & Veterinary etc., Govt. of Assam as the Guest of Honour and Farmer Sri Samir Bordoloi, who inaugurated the seminar. Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, AAU, Dr. K. M. Bujarbaruah presided over the inaugural function.

Hon'ble Governor Prof. Mukhi in his speech highlighted the contribution of animal husbandry sector in country’s economic growth and urged the animal scientists to work with dedication for achieving self-sufficiency in food of animal origin including tapping the export potential of animal products for earning valuable foreign currency. Sri Shyam Jagannathan in his speech enumerated various programmes undertaken by the Govt. for doubling farmers’ income within the stipulated time frame. Dr. K. M. Bujarbaruah in his address stressed the needs of transferring technology and framing proper policies which are to be implemented at the user’s level for doubling farmers’ income.

The five technical sessions deliberated upon various angles to address the issues in augmenting farmers’ income, livelihood and quality of life, where a galaxy of international experts from all over the world exchanged their views along with the Indian animal scientist.

National Workshop on Livestock Products

National Workshop on Livestock Products and Production Management was organised by the Dept. of Poultry Science, CVSc., Khanapara on Oct. 9-10, 2018. Altogether 52 academic experts from 14 different State Agricultural/Veterinary Universities, National Institutes like NDRI, Karnal; IVRI, Izatnagar; CARI, Bareilly including those from the host institute deliberated in brain storming sessions on the subjects viz., Livestock Production Management, Animal Genetics and Breeding, Animal Nutrition, Livestock Products Technology and Poultry Science. Dr. B.N. Saikia, Dean, FVSc, welcomed the guests and appreciated the initiative of ICAR, New Delhi in taking up the revision of PG syllabus. Offering a vote of thanks, Dr. D. Sapcota, Organizing Secretary cum Prof and Head, Department of Poultry Science appreciated the whole-hearted support received from AAU authorities, ICAR and others in conducting the event with grand success.

The World Egg Day Celebrated

The World Egg Day was celebration on Oct. 12, 2018 was organized by the Dept. of Poultry Science, CVSc, AAU, Khanapara. A total of 100 school children, along with their guardians and tachers from Oasis Academy, Khanapara attended the event. The program started with lighting of lamp by Dr. B N Saikia, Dean and Dr. N Kalita, DR (Vety) and highlighting the importance of egg in the child-diet for overall development. Educational videos with slide shows and live demonstration on nutritional qualities of egg were shown by Dr J D Mahanta, Prof. Poultry Science. An interactive session was also conducted by Dr K P Kalita, Prof. with the guardians and the teachers of the Academy.
NE Centre for Agricultural Biotechnology Inaugurated

Hon'ble Vice chancellor, AAU, Dr. K. M. Bujarbaruah relaunched the Centre for Biotechnology as the North East Centre for Agricultural Biotechnology on Nov. 19, 2018.

The ceremony was held in presence of Dr. T. J. Higgins, world expert in the field of genetic engineering from CSIRO, Canberra, Australia and Chairman of the Scientific Advisory Committee of the Centre, Dr. Mohd Aslam, Advisor, DBT, Govt. of India and Dr. T. Madhan Mohan, Consultant Advisor, NERBPMC.

Dr. Bujarbaruah said that the department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology, Govt. of India, had sanctioned Rs 24 crore in the second phase for the Centre which would cater to the north east with extended functioning. Five satellite laboratories would also be constructed in five states of the north east apart from the one in Assam.

He also said that the Centre would facilitate and strengthen biotechnology and human resource development in the north east region.

Furthermore the Centre will have provisions for scientific exchanges for students and researchers of the region through which they will be trained in the developed laboratories of international repute

Earlier Dr. B. K. Sarmah, Director, DBT centre welcomed the dignitaries and others.

6th Group Discussion of the ICAR-AICRP on Fruits

The 6th Group Discussion of the All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) on Fruits was held at Dr. M. C. Das Memorial Auditorium on Feb. 16, 2019.

Presiding over the function, the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Dr. K. M. Bujarbaruah lauded the significant increase in production of horticultural crops in the country during the past two years and expressed concern over the almost 30 per cent post-harvest losses sustained. He said that a survey should be carried out to find out advancement of AICRP on fruit productivity and also about the outcome of farmers’ own efforts in this regard.

Dr. Prakash Patil, Project Coordinator (Fruits), ICAR, IIHR, Bengaluru, and Dr. W. S. Dillon, Assistant Director General (Horticultural Sciences II, ICAR, New Delhi) were among those who spoke on the occasion.

Dr. Patil said research on selected fruits are going on at 46 centres in India besides the collaboration with ICAR-CCRI for Citrus, ICAR-NRC for Banana, ICAR-NRC for Grapes and ICAR-NRC for Litchi; thus the total count of centres comes to 50.

Dr. A. Bhattacharyya, DR (Agri), AAU referred to the tremendous potential of the North East in Horticultural crop production.

During the closing function of ICAR-AICRP on Fruits, Devabrat Rabha, a promising banana farmer from Madang village, Goalpara, who managed to produce 50,000 to 80,000 bananas in his 400 bighas of land annually and earned Rs 1 crore by involving 35 youths, was felicitated.
AAU-Norwegian Collaborative Project on Climate Resilient Agriculture Launched

A collaborative project between Assam Agricultural University (AAU) and the Norwegian government on climate resilient agriculture was launched on Oct. 10, 2018 at the AAU after both sides signed the MoU in the presence of the Norwegian Ambassador to India Nils Ragnar Kamsvag and the Hon’ble State Agriculture Minister Sjt. Atul Bora.

The project entitled ‘Building Climate Resilience of Smallholders In Assam and Odisha’ will run for four years.

Hon’ble Vice-Chancellor, Dr. K. M. Bujarbaruah signed the MoU from AAU side, while from the Norwegian side, Udaya Sekhar Nagothu, Director, Centre For International Development of the Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy Research (NIBIO) signed the document.

Minister Sjt. Bora, in his address, hoped that the project would economically benefit the farmers in enhancing their income. He stated that the State Government was keeping open its doors for foreign investment in the agricultural sector.

In his address, Dr. Bujarbaruah said that the project aims at improving agricultural productivity, adaptive capacity and livelihoods of smallholders to climate and economic enhancements, by building resilience and strengthening the agri-product market. He further remarked that a United Nations (UN) report released on Tuesday stated that climate change was a reality and that by 2030, the overall increase in global temperature would be 1.5 degree Celsius. The launching of this project could not have come at a better time.

Ambassador Kamsvag said that his government has been giving importance to maintaining a clean environment and tackling climatic changes. Stating that Norway as per the Paris Agreement on tackling climate changes, was taking measures to reduce carbon emissions and Norway has set 2050 as target to achieve carbon neutrality.

Earlier, the Director of Research (Agriculture), AAU, Ashok Bhattacharyya, gave the welcome address while the Director, NIBIO Centre for International Development Udaya Sekhar Nagothu, gave an outline of the project.

Dr. T. Ahmed, Chief Scientist, Regional Agricultural Research Station (RARS) of AAU offered the vote of thanks.

International Conference on Climate Change

The four-day International Conference on Climate Change, Biodiversity and Sustainable Agriculture (ICCCBSA) was organized AAU, Jorhat during Dec. 13-16, 2018.

Hon’ble Vice-Chancellor Dr. K. M. Bujarbaruah said that the 1,038 abstracts submitted here proved that a lot individual research was going on, but to yield positive outcome at the ground level, the need of the hour was to work together as teams.

Dr. Bujarbaruah said that another meeting on climate change was going on simultaneously in Poland where 200 countries were participating, including the US. However, the results were awaited.

Addressing the session, Prof. Parimal Bhattacharjee, expert on biodiversity and primatologist, said that India had only 2.4 per cent of the global land with 78 per cent of biodiversity, a large part of which was concentrated in the north-eastern region.

Dr. Bhattacharjee called for greater awareness on the National Biodiversity Act, the National Biodiversity Authority and the need for patenting what was produced from bioresources.

Guest of honour Grant Singleton, Principal Scientist at the IRRRI, Philippines, said that sustainable development of agriculture was the need of the hour as by 2050 the earth would have to feed a population of seven billion people.
Annual Horticultural Show & Competition

Hon’ble Vice-Chancellor Dr. K. M. Bujarbarua inaugurated the 31st Annual Horticultural Show and Competition at the Jorhat campus of AAU on Feb. 5, 2019. In his inaugural address, Dr. Bujarbarua said that the country had made tremendous strides in the horticultural sector and that the Northeast had also followed suit and contributing to the economic development of the region. Dr. Bujarbarua also stressed on floriculture which he said had huge potential in earning revenue for farmers and that several farmers in the State had taken to floriculture as an independent means of income as well as for revenue addition. Over 400 participants took part in the event. The event ended with the prize distribution ceremony.

Agri-Innovators Meet

A day long "Agri-Innovators Meet" was organized by Directorate of Extension Education, AAU, Khanapara in collaboration with MANAGE, Hyderabad on Oct. 5, 2018 among the entrepreneurs of Northeastern region for agri-innovation ideas, startups and rural enterprises. A total 50 numbers of entrepreneurs in the field of Agriculture, Veterinary and Fishery of Northeastern region participated in the Meet and expressed their agri-innovation ideas, startups and rural enterprises.

Orientation course for Faculty Members

A 5-days Orientation course on "Capacity Building for Faculty Members of Agriculture, Livestock and Allied Departments" was organized by Directorate of Extension Education, AAU, Khanapara under the leadership of Dr. Atul Borgohain as the Course Director, in collaboration with MANAGE, Hyderabad from Mar. 12-16, 2019 for the Newly Recruited Assistant Professors of Assam Agricultural University. Eminent educationists from across North East India acted as resource person for the training, including Honorable Vice Chancellor, AAU, Faculty members of IIM, Shillong; Guwahati University and host faculties of AAU Khanapara. A total of 25 (twenty five) Newly Recruited Assistant Professors from College of Veterinary Science, Khanapara; Lakhimpur College of Veterinary Science, Joything, North Lakhimpur and College of Fishery Science, Raha, Nagaon participated in the Training.

Inaugural ceremony of Fish Exhibitor training programme

A year-long training programme of "Fish Exhibitor" was inaugurated graciously at the College of Fisheries, AAU, Raha on Nov. 1, 2018. Dr. K. K. Tamuli, the Dean, College of Fisheries, AAU, Raha in his welcome address highlighted the scope of self employment of the educated youth in the fisheries sector. Mr. Rupsing Teren, the Executive member (Fishery) of Karbi Angling Autonomous Council attended the inaugural ceremony as Chief Guest. The Joint Secretary of the Council (Fishery) Herolas Millik and Mangal Sing Teren were also present in the inaugural function as special guests. A total of 9 trainees who were selected for the training programme by the Karbi Angling Autonomous Council will be appointed as "Fish Exhibitor" in Karbi Anglong.
Zila Krishak Samaroh organized

Zila Krishak Samaroh was organized by KVK, Jorhat and Directorate of Extension Education, at the Dr. M. C. Das Memorial Auditorium, AAU, Jorhat on Mar. 20, 2019 as a part of Golden Jubilee Celebration of the University.

Chief Guest of the occasion Dr. G Narahari Shastry, Director of CSIR-NEIST, said that “Assam Agricultural University (AAU) and North East Institute of Science and Technology (NEIST) will come together to serve the farmers and will empower the people with the knowledge we have. Not just the farmers of Assam or Jorhat but the farmers of the Northeast and India will benefit from our knowledge of new technologies.”

The Guest of Honour, Hon’ble Vice-Chancellor, AAU, Dr. K. M. Bujabaruah, asked the farmers to find ways for better farming. “Farm Clusters or Self-Help Groups of 10 to 20 members should be formed. This will help farmers get the benefits of the schemes of the Central Government, he added.

Four progressive farmers from the district – Anita Gogoi (for handloom and textile), Sanjay Pegu (Rabi and Kharif crops), Prasanta Hazarika (fishery) and Rontu Phukan (poultry) were awarded for their outstanding performance in production under the Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Jorhat.

Dr. P. Nath, incharge Head, KVK, Jorhat and Dr. P. K. Pathak, Director of Extension Education elaborated the relation between the farmers and scientists for exchanging new technology development which AAU scientists giving their best for income generating farming by taking help from KVKs in the state of Assam.

An exhibition was organized on the occasion of Krishak Samaroh which attracted the farmers and others present on the occasion.

Farmer Nominated by KVK Bongaigaon Bagged ‘Jagjivan Ram Innovative Farmer Award’ and ‘Best Farmer’ Award

Mr. Gazeer Rahman, a progressive farmer of Bongaigaon district of Assam was conferred ‘Jagjeevan Ram Abhinav Kisan Puraskar’ 2017 at Zonal level by ICAR, Govt of India on March 5, 2019 at IARI, New Delhi for his technological innovation in the field of agriculture. He was nominated by KVK Bongaigaon and recommended by the Hon’ble Vice Chancellor, AAU. Mr. Gazeer Rahman was the recipient of ‘Best Farmer’ award in the State Level Farmers’ Fare on ‘Doubling Farmers’ Income By 2022 In Assam: Technological Option and Way Forward’, organized by ICAR- ATARI, Zone VI at Kahikuchi, Guwahati, Kamrup from Dec. 16 – 17, 2018.
**ACHIEVEMENT**

* Dr. Ashok Bhattacharya, Director of Research (Agri.), AAU, Dr. T. Ahmed, Chief Scientist, RARS, Titabar and Dr. D.N. Kalita, Head, KVK, Kamrup attended the Internation Rice Conference held at Singapore during Oct. 15 to 17, 2018.

* Dr. M. Sakiya, Dr. R. Borgohain and Dr. P. C. Deka attended the training on rice post production to market at International Rice Research Institute, Los Banos, the Philippines during Jan., 7-15 2019 under APART.

* Dr. R. K. Saud, Associate Director of Extension Education (P&I) attended the study visit for breeder seed production of potato at Dinajpur, Bangladesh during Jan. 14-17, 2019 under APART.

* Dr. D. Sapcota, Prof. and Head, Dept. of Poultry Science, CVSc., Khanapara presented a Lead Paper in International Seminar, Poultry Symposium, Agriculture & Forestry University, Chitwan, Nepal on Oct. 28-30, 2018.

* Dr. D. Sapcota, Prof. and Head, Dept. of Poultry Science, CVSc., Khanapara participated and presented research paper in the International Poultry Seminar held at Dhaka, Bangladesh organised by the Worlds’ Poultry Science Association, Bangladesh Branch on Mar. 5-6, 2019.

* Dr. Priyanka Das, Principal Scientist, Dept. of Biochemistry & Agricultural Chemistry, AAU, Jorhat was nominated as a member of the Steering Committee on Biotechnology Based Programme for Societal Development (Rural Development, SC/ST Population and Women). She attended a meeting in this connection sponsored and organized by DBT from Feb 7-8, 2019 at CGO Complex, New Delhi.

* Dr. Rickey Rani Boruah, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Textiles and Apparel Designing, College of Community Science, AAU, Jorhat attended XIV Agricultural Science Congress on Feb. 22-23, 2019 at NASC, Pusa, New Delhi.

* Dr. Nabaneeta Gogoi, Professor and Principal Scientist attended workshop on Communication package and material development on “Women Empowerment through S & T based Entrepreneurship Development for Tribal Women of Arunachal Pradesh and Assam at Tezpur University on Mar. 23, 2019.

* Dr. Sayanika Borah, Assistant professor, Deptt. of Extension and Communication Management, Faculty of Community Science participated and presented a paper in the International Conference on Food Security and Sustainable Agriculture (IFSA-2018) held during Dec. 21-24, 2018, at Pataya-Bangkok, Thailand organized by Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) Bangkok, Khon Karen University, Bangkok and Society for Agriculture Innovation and Development, Ranchi, India.

* Dr. Manoshi Baruah Deka Deptt. of Extension and Communication Management, Faculty of Community Science was invited as Co-Chair in Mahila Kisan Diwas organized by Department of Agriculture Cooperation and Farmers Welfare, Krishi Bhawan, Govt of India, New Delhi during Oct 14-15, 2018.

* Dr B K Sarmah, Director, DBT AAU Centre obtained following appointments from DBT, GOI: a) Panel member of Indo-UK "Pulses and oilseed research initiative"; b) Co-chair of the DBT-NER Steering Committee to review the proposals in the area of Human Resource Development; c) Member of the DBT-NER Technical Expert Committee (TEC) to review the proposals in the area of Agriculture Biotechnology & Allied Sciences on Dec. 28, 2018; d) Member DBT-NER Scientific and Technical Appraisal and Advisory Group (STAG) since Sept 2018.

* Animal Physiologists Association (APA) had conferred the honour APA Fellow-2018 to Dr. Jitendra Goswami, Professor & Head, Dept. of Veterinary Physiology, CVSc, AAU. Khanapara in its 1st Annual Conference held at IVRI, Izatnagar, U.P on Dec. 22, 2018 for his significant research and academic contribution towards the discipline of Animal Physiology. The certificate and memento were given away by Dr. V.P. Kamboj, Ex. Director of CDRI, Lucknow and Dr. R.K. Singh, Director of IVRI, Izatnagar, U.P.

* Dr. K.C. Nath, Professor, Dept. of Animal Reproduction, Gynaecology & Obstetrics, College of Veterinary Science, AAU, Khanapara was awarded the Life Time Achievement Award 2018 of The Indian Society for Study of Animal Reproduction (ISSAR) for his meritorious contribution through teaching, research and extension in the field of Animal Reproduction. The award was conferred upon Dr. K.C. Nath in the inaugural ceremony of the 34th Annual Convention of the Society and International Symposium held on Dec. 28, 2018 at Anand Agricultural University, Anand (Gujarat).

* Dr. Bibha Chetia Borah, Principal Scientist & Incharge, FRC, AAU was awarded the prestigious honorary fellowship of Society of Life Science for the year 2018 in the 6th Annual Session of the Society of Life Sciences on Nov. 7, 2018.

* Dr. Bibha Chetia Borah, Principal Scientist & Incharge, FRC, AAU was awarded the prestigious Prof. B. N. Pandey Medal, Award conferred by Zoological Society of India in the 31st All India congress of Zoology and National Seminar on Climate Smart Aquaculture held in COF, CAU, Agartala on Jan. 15, 2019.
Model Training Course on Integrated Farming Systems held

An eight days long Model Training Course on "Integrated Farming Systems for Sustainable Agriculture" was organized by the Directorate of Extension Education from Nov. 19-26, 2018 at the Conference Hall of Directorate of Extension Education. The programme was sponsored by the Ministry of Agriculture, Govt. of India. A total of 20 officers pooled from Agriculture and allied departments of the states of Assam, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim participated in the programme. The course included classroom and practical sessions on varied subjects like (i) Integrated crop-livestock and aquaculture based farming system for sustainable agriculture (ii) Soil health management, water use efficiency, weeds and pests control as components of IFS (iii) Resource utilization in IFS (iv) Organic farming concept and IFS model (v) Production and Economics of IFS (vi) Climate resilient technologies and agrometeorology (vi) Mushroom and Bamboo as a component of IFS. The sessions were conducted by 6 guest faculties and 29 faculties from the University. The training course has successfully enabled the participants to gain first-hand knowledge on IFS in addition to the problems and probable solutions associated with the management of various farming systems.

Skill Development Training Programme on "Green House Operator"

A month-long Skill Development Programme on job role "Green House Operator" at PFDC as per the guidelines of Agriculture Skill Council of India (ASCI) sponsored by the Directorate of Horticulture, Govt. of Assam, was successfully concluded on Nov. 24, 2018 at PFDC centre, HRS, Kahikuchi.

A total of 30 participants attended the programme from 11 districts of Assam. The inaugural programme was attended by Mr. P. Hazarika, Director of Horticulture & Food Processing, Govt. of Assam; Dr. N. K. Mohan, former Chief Scientist; Dr. S. Saikia, Chief Scientist, HRS and Dr. P. Mahanta, PI, PFDC along with several officers of the State Department of Agriculture & Horticulture and scientists from HRS, Kahikuchi.

Seminar on "Climate Resilient Aquaculture Practices" organized

A day-long seminar was organized at the College of Fisheries, AAU, Raha on Jan. 9, 2019 on 'Climate Resilient Aquaculture Practices' aiming to increase the fish production of Assam on sustainable manner. More than 70 participants including research scholars, participated in the Seminar. The inaugural ceremony was attended by Dr. P. Das, Chief Scientist RARS, AAU, Shillongai as Chief Guest. The inaugural session was chaired by Dr. K.K. Tamuli, Dean, the College of Fisheries, AAU, Raha who in his concluding remark emphasized the need to adopt new strategies of fish farming to cope up with the climate change. The Chief Guest, Dr. P. Das in his address expressed his views about the change in rainfall pattern in the recent years and its possible impacts on fish and fisheries. The technical session included speeches of invited speakers who spoke on various aspects of climate change; impacts of anthropogenic factors and climate; rainfall patterns; wetland management and climate smart aquaculture practices.

Farmers' Day celebrated at RARS, Titabor

Farmers’ Day was celebrated at Regional Agricultural Research Station, Titabor on Nov. 10, 2018 which was inaugurated by Hon’ble Vice Chancellor, AAU, Dr. K. M. Bujarbarua

Inaugurating the Farmer’s Day, Dr. Bujarbarua congratulated the scientists, scholars and junior scientists of the station and further called upon the young generation farmers to fill the gap between the agricultural scientists and farmers so as to carry and follow the actual technologies that have been developed by the scientists in their labs. He also called upon the young farmers to take up integrated farming which would lead them to double their income and would support to continue their agricultural habits.

Dr. T. Ahmed, Chief Scientist, RARS, Titabor, Dr. A. Bhattacharyya, DR (Agri), Dr. P. Pathak, Director of Extension Education spoke on the occasion. The Vice Chancellor also inaugurated the drone facility at the Rice Experimental Field which would help to detect diseases at the interior field areas.
Annual College Meet

As in the previous years, the Annual College Meets were organized by all the constituent colleges of AAU during the year.

**XXIX Inter College Meet, 2019**

The XXIX Inter College Meet of Assam Agricultural University was celebrated amidst great fanfare at the Jorhat Campus during Feb. 20-23, 2019. Dr. K. M. Bujarbarua, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor declared the Meet open. Shri Hrishikesh Goswami, Press Adviser to the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Govt of Assam was the Chief Guest at the inaugural ceremony.

The Inter College Meet began with a colourful March Past competition amongst the teams of all constituent colleges of the University. The College of Horticulture was declared the best March Past team. The College of Agriculture, Jorhat led the medals tally in both the sports and cultural sections and was also adjudged the Best College of the XXIX Inter College Meet, 2019. A vibrant cultural function was organized to mark the end of the four day event.

**Agri-Unifest**

Assam Agricultural University participated in the 19th All India Inter Agricultural University Youth Festival (Agri-Unifest) held in Sardarkrushinagar Dantiwada Agricultural University, Sardarkrushinagar during Feb. 3-7, 2019. Assam Agricultural University was represented by a 27 member students group.

Miss Pragya Prerona of AAU bagged the first prize in the highly competitive Light Vocal competition. The AAU contingent also bagged the second prize in Cultural Procession, third prizes in Clay Modeling and Group Dance respectively.

**Pre-Republic Day Parade Camp**

Two students namely Miss Dixita Rajkhowa, 2nd Year, College of Horticulture and Mr Priyamjit Roy, 2nd Year, College of Agriculture, participated in the Pre-Republic Day Parade Camp organized by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, National Service Scheme, Government of India, Regional Centre, during Oct. 15 to Nov. 15, 2018.

**Republic Day Parade Camp, 2019**

Miss Dixita Rajkhowa, 2nd Year, College of Horticulture was selected for the Republic Day Parade Camp-2019 organized by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, National Service Scheme, Govt. of India, Regional Centre, at New Delhi from Jan. 1-31, 2019.

**National Integration Camps/other camps**

* A NSS Special Camp was organized by the NSS volunteers placed under RAWEP at KVK, Jorhat during Sep. 5-11, 2018. In the camp, 35 volunteers took up awareness programmes on maintenance of cleanliness and hygiene in the village households, staged street plays to create awareness on environmental issues and also educated the rural masses as a part of the SVEEP programme of the Govt of India.
* A total of 350 NSS volunteers actively participated in the NSS Special Camp held during Nov. 17-23, 2018 in the villages near AAU Jorhat campus
* Six NSS volunteers from AAU participated in the NSS Adventure Camp at NIMAS, Dirang, Arunachal Pradesh held during Nov. 25 to Dec. 4, 2018.
* Six NSS volunteers selected from the Colleges of Agriculture, Community Science, Fisheries Science and Bishwanath College of Agriculture participated in the National Integration Camp organized by the NSS, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Govt. of India, at Rabindranath Tagore University, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh during Mar.10-16, 2019.
* Seven NSS volunteers selected from the Colleges of Agriculture, Community Science, and Sericulture, Assam Agricultural University, participated in the North East NSS Festival, organized by the NSS, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India, at Don Bosco University, Tepesia, Sonapur during Mar. 18-22, 2019.
* Eight NSS volunteers selected from the Colleges of Agriculture, Sericulture and Horticulture, Assam Agricultural University, participated in the National Integration Camp organized by the NSS, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India, at Chandigarh, during Mar. 24-30, 2019.

**Debating and literacy achievements**

Ms Parismita Das and Ms Montrishna Rajkhowa representing College of Agriculture won the 2nd Best Team in the Debating Competition organized during the socio-cultural festival 'Phoenix' organized at Jorhat Engineering College during March, 2019. Mr Arunav Khound of College of Agriculture was adjudged the 3rd Best Debator at the Debating Competition organized by SIPE during March, 2019. The team comprising Ms Ishani Borthakur and Mr Inzuddin Ahmed bagged the 1st Prize for Literature during the socio-cultural festival 'Phoenix' organized at Jorhat Engineering College during March, 2019.

**Quiz**

SPECIAL FEATURES

Fashion show organized

The Dept. of Textiles and Apparel Designing, College of Community Science, AAU Jorhat collaborating with monthly magazine ‘Asomiya Maya’ organized “Miss Maya North East 2018, a North east traditional mega beauty pageant for Miss, Mrs. And Kids” on Oct. 6, 2018 at the Dr. M.C.Das Memorial Auditorium, AAU, Jorhat. A total of 158 contestants participated from different states of the North East. A colourful show started with 64 kids walking the ramp, followed by 56 Miss and 38 Mrs in three different rounds.

International Womens Day celebrated

International Women’s Day was observed in the Dept. of Extension and Communication Management, College of Community Science on Mar. 8, 2019 where Dr. Manjula Hazarika, District Immunization Officer, Office of the Additional Director, Family Welfare, Jorhat, delivered a talk on ‘Reproductive Health’ for the students of Community Science to mark the occasion. The programme ended with a lively discussion with the doctor about different problems related to reproductive health.

Participatory Extension Activities on Animal Sciences

The month-long Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) programme conducted by the Dept. of Extension Education, College of Veterinary Science, AAU, Khanapara came to an end on Feb. 17, 2019 with a day-long treatment-cum-vaccination camp at Borgaon, Mantabori and Sonowabori villages of Mayong Development Block, Morigaon District. A group of 30 teachers from different disciplines of Veterinary Science, 95 UG students and 11 PG students under the leadership of Dr. P. Hazarika, Prof. and Head, Dept. of Extension Education participated in the camp, where a total of 1445 cattle and buffaloes were vaccinated against Haemorrhagic Septicaemia and Black Quarter. Moreover, 1980 other livestock and poultry birds were also treated for different ailments.

Several officials of the Deptt. of A.H. & Vety., Govt. of Assam viz., Dr. Paresh Sarma, Assistant Director, NERDDL and Dr Ajitav Kakoti, Deputy Director, ICDP attended the programme. The State Vety. Department also supported the programme by providing materials in the form of medicine and vaccine.

Training on ‘Early Childhood Care & Education’

Training on ‘Early Childhood Care & Education’ was organized by the Dept. of Human Development and Family Studies, AAU, Jorhat on Nov. 9-10, 2018. The training was targeted for sixty numbers of supervisors working under Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS), Jorhat. Dr. Ruplekha Bora, Dean, College of Community Science, Dr. Prasanna Pathak, Director of Extension Education, AAU graced the inaugural function of the programme and addressed the gathering with valuable words. Mrs. Sangita Borthakur, District Social Welfare Office, Jorhat, expressed her gratitude towards the Department of Human Development and Family Studies for arranging training for the supervisors. Heads of the other four departments of college of Community Science were also present on the occasion. Dr. Juril Baruah, Head, Dept. of Human Development and Family Studies, explained the objectives of the programme. Dr. Ruma Bhattacharjee, Professor and Dr. Mrdula Saikia Baruah, Professor, Dept. of Food Science and Nutrition, College of Community Science acted as resource persons.
Swamp buffaloes breed registered

Swamp buffaloes of Assam have been registered as a breed. They are named as ‘Luit’ and the accession number is: INDIA_BUFFALO_0212_LUIT_01014 certificate for registration was awarded by the Hon’ble Minister for Agriculture Sri Radha Mohan Singh at a function held at ICAR New Delhi on Dec. 12, 2018. The team of scientists who worked on this project are Dr. G. C. Das and Dr. G. Zaman.

Luit are swamp buffaloes having 48 diploid (2N) no. of chromosomes and distributed in upper Brahmaputra valley of Assam. Luit is a medium sized black coloured buffalo with compact body and strong built up. Forehead is broad with conical face and wide muzzle. Eyes are prominent. Horns are broad at the base, curved upward forming a semi circle and taper to a narrow tip. Light whitestocking up to the knee are present in both fore and hind legs. Tail is short reaching up to the hocks. Udder is bowl shaped and small in size. Lactation milk yield ranges from 385 to 505 kg. Bullocks are excellent draft animals for carting and ploughing especially in muddy field for paddy cultivation.

ASSAMHILL: Goat Breed Registered

Local Goats of Assam have been registered as a new breed by the ICAR National Bureau of Animal Genetics Resource, Karnal, Haryana. They are named as ASSAMHILL and the Accession number is: INDIA.GOAT.0213_.ASSAMHILL_06031.

The certificate for registration was awarded by the Hon’ble Minister for Agriculture Sri Radha Mohan Singh at a function held at ICAR New Delhi on Dec. 12, 2018. The team of scientists who worked on this project are Dr. N. Nahardeka, Dr. A. Saleque and Dr. G. Zaman.

Assam Hill goats are mostly white with occasional black patches on backline and legs. These goats are short legged with small body size. Both bucks and does are beared and have short cylindrical horns which are directed upwards and outward. Ears are medium in size, horizontally placed with pointed tips. This is an important meat type animal with high prolificacy. These goats are reared mainly for meat. Adult body weight ranges from 15 to 26 kg. Age at first kidding ranges from 337 to 447 days. Average kidding size is 1.6

### RECENT ADDITIONS TO THE RESEARCH PROJECT POOL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of the Project</th>
<th>Principal Investigator</th>
<th>Funding Agency</th>
<th>Amount (Rs.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Molecular Characterization and development of breed signature for indigenous sheep of north east India&quot;</td>
<td>Dr. Arundhati Phukan</td>
<td>ICAR Extramural</td>
<td>10.50 lakh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indigenous Development of a new Suture Mediated closure Device for Closure of Arterial Access site to achieve instant Haemostasis following catheter Angiography and Interventions</td>
<td>Dr. Bhupen Sarma</td>
<td>DBT-IIT</td>
<td>1.30 lakh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology Intervention in Household Piggeries for doubling farmer’s income by setting up rural transformation clusters</td>
<td>Dr. K. Ahmed</td>
<td>DBT</td>
<td>56.59 lakh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development of Sustainable Rural Livelihood Options through Hygienic Fish Drying Activities by Establishment of Technology Demonstration Centre</td>
<td>Dr. Bipul Kumar Kakati</td>
<td>DBT</td>
<td>51.58 lakh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering resistance against cucumber mosaic virus in king chilly/chilli through RNA silencing technology</td>
<td>Dr. Munmi Borah</td>
<td>GoI-DBT</td>
<td>35.30 lakh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integrative taxonomy of insect pests of rice and their natural enemies of North East India</td>
<td>Dr. Purnima Das</td>
<td>GoI-DBT</td>
<td>31.80 lakh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introggression of Phosphorus stress tolerant and multiple disease resistance genes into rice through market assisted selection</td>
<td>Dr. Akashi Sarma</td>
<td>GoI-DBT</td>
<td>40.23 lakh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bio prospecting of some indigenous medicinal plants of NE Region of India with special reference to Anti Inflammatory properties</td>
<td>Dr. I. C. Baruah</td>
<td>GoI-DBT</td>
<td>17.93 lakh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improved mechanization in post harvest to reduce losses and improve quality</td>
<td>Dr. P. C. Dey</td>
<td>ICAR-IRRI</td>
<td>3.25 lakh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building Climate resilience of Indian Small-holders through sustainable intensification and Agro-ecological farming systems to strengthen food and nutrition security</td>
<td>Dr. T. Ahmed</td>
<td>NIBIO-Norway</td>
<td>261.00 lakh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improved crop management and strengthened seed supply system for drought prone rainfed lowlands in South Asia</td>
<td>Dr. K. Kurmi</td>
<td>EC-IFAD</td>
<td>4.87 lakh</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Training Programme on Basic training on Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART) with special reference to in-vitro fertilization

In continuation with the Golden Jubilee celebration of the AAU, a training programme on Basic training on Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART) with special reference to in-vitro fertilization was organized by the Dept. of Veterinary Physiology, CVSc, AAU, Khanapara from Jan. 30 to Feb. 5, 2019. The Training programme was sponsored by ASTEC, Govt. of Assam. All together 21 participants attended the training. Lectures were delivered by Dr. M. Rahman, Scientist G (Rtd), Dept. of Atomic Energy, Govt. of India, Dr B C Sarmah, Professor & Head (Rtd) Veterinary Physiology, Dr. Amarendra Dewan, renowned Human Gynecologist and proprietor of Maa Invitro Centre, Guwahati, and faculties of the department in different sessions of the training on the topic Assisted Reproductive Technology.

Skill Development Training programme on Fishery

A one month Skill Development Training programme on ‘Hatchery Production Workers’ under Ministry of Agriculture, Govt. of India was conducted in Fisheries Research Centre, AAU and EEI (NER) from Jan. 21 to Feb. 28, 2019. Twenty numbers of trainees from different district of Assam participated in the training programme and were exposed to various technologies such as induced breeding and seed production technique of carp fish, breeding of magur and breeding of Koi.

“Training-cum-Awareness on Role of Birds in Agriculture”

A training-cum-awareness on “Role of Birds in Agriculture” sponsored by ICAR-AINP on VPM was organized at KVK Dibrugarh on Mar. 20, 2019 on the occasion of “World Sparrow Day” to spread the message on role of birds in our life.

KVK Dibrugarh organizes “Kisan Mela”

A “Kisan Mela” was organized by Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Dibrugarh on Feb. 28, 2019 at the campus of Moderkhata Cultural and Sports Development Centre situated at Romai, Kardoibam. A total of 1201 farmers and persons from different input agencies and government officials participated in the programme. The programme was started with lighting the lamp by the Chief Guest of the programme Mr. R. Teli, Honourable MP of Dibrugarh Lok Sabha in presence of other delegates, followed by playing of ICAR song.

Hon’ble MP in his address urged all the participants to take maximum advantage of the Mela and to apply the knowledge for their farming enterprises. The Guest of Honour, hon’ble MLA of Lahoal constituency, Mr. R. Baruah appreciated the exercise made by KVK and urged all the farmers to engage in their farming activity with more vigour and assured that government will extend all possible help for the benefit of the farming community. Eight numbers of farmers showing excellence through their activity in the field of agriculture during 2018-19 with the support of KVK were felicitated with letter of appreciation.

NEWS FROM ATIC

Farmers’ visit: A total of 2175 farmers visited ATIC and were provided advisory services.
Products sold: Paddy seeds of different HYV, vegetables, Biofor-PF, tea, jaggery, etc. were sold.
ATIC continues to be an active collaborator in Gyan Yatra Programme of Govt. of Assam