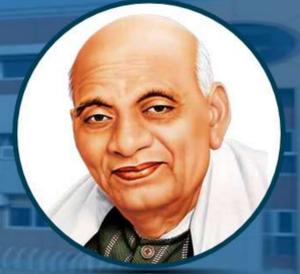




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From the Vice Chancellor's Desk

Expanding Horizons in Horticulture for Climate-Resilient Farming

Horticulture includes cultivation of fruits, vegetables, flowers, spices, plantation crops and medicinal and aromatic plants. It plays a vital role in food and nutritional security while enhancing farm income, generating employment and supporting sustainable agricultural development. Due to crop diversification, shorter crop cycles and higher economic returns per unit area, horticulture offers promising opportunities for farmers as well as agri-entrepreneurs. Over the past decade, the



sector has expanded steadily in both area and production, driven by favourable agro-climatic conditions, rising demand for nutritious diets, technological advancements and supportive government initiatives. Horticultural crops also show comparatively better resilience to climate variability, making them important for climate-smart agriculture. The sector also provides strong entrepreneurial opportunities for horticulture graduates.

Government support remains crucial through policy initiatives, financial assistance, research programmes, certification systems, infrastructure development and sustainable input regulations. These measures help farmers adopt improved technologies, maintain quality standards and address emerging challenges such as climate change and growing food demand.

At the national level, the National Horticulture Mission increased production from about 240 million tonnes in 2014-15 to nearly 355 million tonnes in 2022-23, contributing around one-third of agricultural GDP while using only about 15% of cropped area. Globally, horticulture contributes significantly to food supply and nutrition, with fruits and vegetables playing a key role in addressing malnutrition and promoting healthier diets.

The horticulture industry in Gujarat is making consistent progress; however, it continues to face challenges such as water scarcity, post-harvest losses and price volatility. Currently, the emphasis is on developing climate-resilient horticulture, promoting organic farming and utilizing digital marketing platforms to empower farmers and promote sustainability. Saurashtra, a semi-arid peninsula in Gujarat, has risen as an important contributor to India's horticulture field, utilizing its unique climate, robust crops and innovative agricultural methods. Renowned for its mangoes, pomegranate, guava, dates, cabbage, cauliflower, brinjal, rose, marigold, jasmine, cumin, garlic and isabgol, the region is now branching out into high-value horticulture, propelled by governmental support and the demand for exports. Through its innovative farming practices, robust research and development and entrepreneurial mindset, Saurashtra is set to contribute 20% to Gujarat's horticulture expansion by 2030. The transition from conventional crops to high-value, climate-resilient horticulture in the region serves as a model for successful agriculture in arid zones.

(V. P. Chovatia)

Rabi Krishi Mahotsav - 2025

As part of the celebration of Vikas Saptah - 2025, the Department of Agriculture, Farmers Welfare and Co-operation, Government of Gujarat, organized “Krushvi Vikas Din - 2025” and “Rabi Krushi Mahotsav - 2025” during October 14-15, 2025 at the district and taluka levels across the state. The programmes were conducted at various locations across the Saurashtra region with active scientific support from Junagadh Agricultural University (JAU) and its Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs).

Junagadh Agricultural University provided scientific and technical support under the leadership of Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, JAU. The programme was coordinated by Dr. N. B. Jadav, Director of Extension Education and Dr. A. G. Pansuriya, Director of Research. Senior Scientists and Heads of KVKs, JAU scientists and officials of the State Department actively participated by organizing exhibitions, delivering technical lectures, and providing on-field guidance to farmers.

The two-day programme aimed to create awareness among farmers about modern agricultural technologies, improved rabi crop production practices, innovative farming approaches, and farmer-centric government schemes.

Around 75 teams comprising about 150 JAU and KVK scientists, along with State Department staff, were deployed, making the Rabi Krishi Mahotsav-2025 a major coordinated extension activity of the University.



ICAR-Sponsored 'JAI-SARDAR' National Seminar at CoA, JAU, Junagadh

An ICAR-Sponsored National Seminar on 'Jumpstarting Agricultural Initiatives for Sustainable Agriculture, Rural Development, and Augmenting Regional Collaborations (JAI-SARDAR)' was organized by the Department of Agricultural Economics, CoA, JAU, Junagadh on December 23, 2025, commemorating National Farmers' Day. The event attracted more than 350 participants from the scientific community, representing several States, including Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Delhi, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, and Tamil Nadu, besides Gujarat. Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, served as the President of the inaugural ceremony, while Dr. A. R. Pathak, former Vice Chancellor, JAU & NAU graced the occasion as the Chief Guest, and Dr. A. K. Gupta, former DR, SKNAU, Jobner served as the Guest of Honour. Dr. N. J. Ardeshna, Professor & Head, and Dr. B. Swaminathan, Associate Professor, facilitated as the organizing and joint-organizing secretaries.



Training on Pink Bollworm Management

A one-day training programme on Insecticide Resistance Management and Dissemination of Pink Bollworm under NFSM was organized by the Cotton Research Station, JAU, Junagadh on October 7, 2025. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor along with Director of Research Dr. A. G. Pansuriya, Director of Extension Education Dr. N. B. Jadav, Registrar Dr. Y. H. Ghelani and Head of Centre Dr. M. G. Valu. Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor emphasized quality seed selection

and scientific crop management, while Dr. A. G. Pansuriya highlighted strategies to reduce pink bollworm incidence. Dr. N. B. Jadav stressed quality cotton production through effective extension approaches, and Dr. Y. H. Ghelani spoke on integrated pink bollworm management. About 60 farmers from Bhesan and Vanthli talukas participated actively and input kits were distributed to the participants.



Training on Pearl Millet Seed Production Technology

One-day farmers' training programmes on Pearl Millet Seed Production Technology were conducted on 5th and 15th December 2025 by the Pearl Millet Research Station (PMRS), JAU, Jamnagar in collaboration with Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Limited (IFFCO), Jamnagar and Narmada Rural Development Society (NARDESH) an NGO of GNFC, Bharuch, respectively. The trainings aimed to enhance farmers' knowledge on quality pearl millet seed production and were attended by more than 50 farmers from Jamnagar district and surrounding areas. The programmes included technical sessions on pearl millet seed production, crop management and plant protection, complemented by field visits for hands-on learning.



The trainings benefited from the technical expertise of Dr. K. D. Mungra, Research Scientist (Pearl Millet), along with other PMRS scientists viz. Dr. H. M. Bhuva, Dr. G. M. Parmar, Dr. R. J. Chaudhary and Prof. J.S. Sorathiya.

Training on Natural Farming for Model Farm Beneficiaries

One-day training programmes were organized on December 10, 2025 and December 11, 2025 under the Gujarat Natural Farming Mission by the DEE, JAU in collaboration with the ATMA Project, for model farm beneficiary farmers from different districts of the University's jurisdiction. The programmes were inaugurated by Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, JAU, Junagadh, and were graced by Dr. N. B. Jadav, Director of Extension Education, Dr. A. G. Pansuriya, Director of Research, along with Joint Directors of Agriculture (Extension), University scientists and ATMA officials. About 400 farmers, including men and women, participated and benefited from technical and practical guidance on natural farming practices.



Plastic Mulch Roll Distribution-cum-Demonstration-cum-training Programme

A one-day Plastic Mulch Roll Distribution-cum-Demonstration-cum-Training Programme on "Efficient Use of Plastics in Modern Agriculture" was organized jointly by AICRP on PEASEM and Ambuja Cement Foundation, Kodinar at Kankiya village of Gir Somnath District on December 9, 2025. The programme was attended by 49 farmers and it enhanced their awareness and technical knowledge regarding the efficient and judicious use of plastic-based technologies in agriculture for improving crop productivity, resource-use efficiency and post-harvest management. A total 168 plastic mulch rolls were distributed to 42 SC farmers in the programme.



Training-cum-Demonstration Programme for Farmers and Farm Women

AICRP on PEASEM, Department of Renewable Energy Engineering, CAET, JAU, Junagadh organized a "Training-cum-Demonstration programme" for farmers and farm women at Zanzariya Village of Amreli district on December 26, 2025. Dr. S. P. Cholera and Dr. Rina Sabalpara delivered lectures on 'Role of mulching for qualitative agricultural and horticultural crop production' and 'Beneficial uses of Net house and Importance of plastic in processing and value addition of horticultural crops' respectively. A total of 21 progressive farmers and farm women actively participated in the training.



Launch of Student Startup and Innovation Policy (SSIP-2.0) at CAET, JAU, Junagadh

The College of Agricultural Engineering and Technology, JAU, Junagadh, received grant under the Student Startup and Innovation Policy (SSIP-2.0) from the Government of Gujarat. In this connection, its official launch was organized by Skill Development and Startup Cell of the college on September 30, 2025. The policy aims to encourage innovation and entrepreneurship by supporting students in transforming their ideas into startups, facilitating IP registration, and providing financial as well as technical assistance. The launch ceremony was presided over by Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor. The dignitaries of the university, including Dr. A. G. Pansuriya, Director of Research; Dr. N. B. Jadav, DEE, Dr. Y. H. Ghelani, Registrar, and Dr. H. D. Rank, Principal and Dean, remained present. The event saw the participation of 225 UG and PG students and faculty members of the college.



Workshop on Natural Farming

Natural Farming workshop for Farmer Producer Organizations was organized by Krishi Vigyan Kendra, JAU, Surendranagar in collaboration with Gujarat Natural Farming University, Halol on November 18, 2025. Dr. Rashmikant Gurjar, DEE, GNFU, Halol highlighted the scope and importance of natural farming, while Dr. J. N. Vyas, Senior Scientist and Head, KVK Nana Kandhasar, emphasized the role of training and knowledge sharing in promoting natural farming. A total of 105 participants attended the programme.



Pre-Rabi Seasonal Training Workshop

A Pre-Rabi Seasonal Training Workshop was organized on 2nd and 3rd December 2025 by the Directorate of Extension Education, JAU, under the inspiration of Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, and the chairmanship of Dr. N. B. Jadav, Director of Extension Education. The programme was attended by Shri G. S. Dave, Joint Director of Agriculture (Extension), Rajkot; Shri S. M. Gadhesariya, Joint Director of Agriculture (Extension), Junagadh; Shri D. G. Rathod, Deputy Director of Agriculture (Training); Shri Jigarbhai Bhatt, District Agriculture Officer; and Dr. H. C. Chhodavadia, Associate Director of Extension Education, along with other officials. A total of 65 officers participated in the workshop.



Celebration of Days

World Cotton Day

World Cotton Day was celebrated on October 7, 2025 at the Cotton Research Station, JAU, Junagadh. Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, inaugurated the programme. Dr. A. G. Pansuriya, Director of

Research, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest, Dr. N. B. Jadav, Director of Extension Education and Dr. Y. H. Ghelani, Registrar, JAU, graced the occasion as Special Guests. The programme began with a welcome address by Dr. M. G. Valu, Head, Cotton Research Station, highlighting the significance of World Cotton Day and the global importance of cotton.



As part of the celebration, a rally was flagged off by the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor to create awareness on improved cotton production technologies, with slogans emphasizing the role of cotton as the “King of Fibre” and its contribution to sustainable agriculture and the textile industry.

World Food Day

The Department of Processing and Food Engineering and ICAR–AICRP on PHET, CAET, JAU, Junagadh, celebrated “World Food Day” on October 16, 2024. On this occasion, a Seminar-cum-Competition on “Engineering Innovations for Food Security and Nutrition” was organized. The inaugural function was graced by Dr. A. G. Pansuriya, Director of Research and Dr. H. D. Rank, Principal and Dean.



As part of the event, three expert lectures were delivered by Dr. N. K. Dhamsaniya, Dr. Nitee Gadhavi and Dr. Pinki S. Sharma for UG and PG students. Poster presentation, elocution, and essay competitions were also organized and certificates were distributed to the winners. Dr. M. N. Dabhi, Dr. V. P. Sangani, and Dr. B. M. Devani served as the event coordinators.

Rastriya Ekta Divas

Junagadh Agricultural University observed Rastriya Ekta Divas on October 31, 2025, commemorating the 150th birth anniversary of Iron Man of India Shri Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel at Sardar Smruti Kendra, JAU, Junagadh, where dignitaries paid floral tribute to his statue.

On the same occasion, NSS volunteers of ASPEE CoA, JAU, Khapat participated in a Unity March at Porbandar promoting



national integration. NSS Unit of CoA, JAU, Mota Bhandariya organized a Run for Unity with 62 volunteers, while CAET, JAU, Junagadh and Polytechnic in Horticulture also observed Rastriya Ekta Divas through a Run for Unity with participation of 71 students to promote unity and integrity.

Constitution Day

Constitution Day was observed on November 26, 2025 at the ASPEE College of Agriculture, JAU, Khapat; College of Agriculture, JAU, Mota Bhandariya; and Polytechnic in Horticulture, JAU, Junagadh with active participation of NSS volunteers, students, and faculty members to promote awareness about the values enshrined in the Constitution of India.



Programmes included awareness activities, collective reading of the Preamble, and lectures highlighting constitutional values, fundamental rights, and duties

World AIDS Day

World AIDS Day was observed by the NSS Unit of ASPEE College of Agriculture, JAU, Khapat, on December 1, 2025, with the objective of creating awareness about HIV/AIDS among students and the community. As part of the programme, a poster making activity on AIDS awareness was organized, in which NSS volunteers actively participated and creatively conveyed messages on prevention, stigma reduction and healthy living. In addition, a guest lecture on HIV/AIDS was delivered by Ms. Asmitaben Sadia from Sampurn Surksha Clinic, Bhavsinhji Hospital, Porbandar.

World Soil Day

World Soil Day was celebrated on December 5, 2025, across different units of Junagadh Agricultural University (JAU) on the FAO theme 'Healthy Soils for Healthy Cities'. At CoA, JAU, Junagadh, the Department of Soil Science and

Agricultural Chemistry organized a programme involving faculty members and PG students from Soil Science, Agronomy, and Horticulture. The event included an address on the importance of soil conservation, a lecture on soil-related problems and their management, and concluded with a soil health awareness rally.



The NSS unit of CoA, JAU, Mota Bhandariya organized a poster competition on the same theme, with 45 students participating enthusiastically. At CAET, JAU, Junagadh, the Department of Soil and Water Engineering conducted a computer-based quiz on engineering interventions for soil health, where top students were awarded certificates. KVK, Jamnagar marked the day by organizing an on-campus training programme on integrated nutritional management for different crops, attended by 40 farmers, including a lecture and interactive discussion on soil health management and natural farming.

Kavya Pathan and Kavya Lekhan Programme

The NSS unit of CoA, JAU, Mota Bhandariya organized the “Kavya Pathan and Kavya Lekhan” programme on December 6, 2025 to commemorate the 100th birth anniversary of the former PM, Bharat Ratna Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

The programme was aimed to pay tribute to his literary contributions, poetic excellence, and inspirational leadership.

Agricultural Education Day

Agricultural Education Day–2025 was celebrated on December 6, 2025 at CAET, JAU, Junagadh, on the theme “Agricultural Education in Context to NEP-2020.” Expert lectures highlighting NEP-2020, future prospects of agricultural engineers, and skill development were delivered by faculty members. Dr. H. D. Rank, Principal and Dean, emphasized the need to prepare students for technology-driven agriculture.

Veer Baal Diwas

“Veer Baal Diwas” was celebrated by the NSS Unit of the Polytechnic in Horticulture, Junagadh on December 24, 2025 through a special lecture delivered by Ms. N. V. Savaliya, NSS Programme Officer, on the role of children in nation building. The programme highlighted values of bravery, sacrifice, and responsibility among youth, with participation of 70 students and 6 staff members.

Orientation-cum-Induction Programme for PG Students

An “Orientation-cum-Induction” programme for the first-semester postgraduate students was organized on October 6, 2025, at CoA, JAU, Junagadh. Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, served as the Chairman of the event and motivated the students to work hard by utilizing all the research facilities of the university. Dr. A. G. Pansuriya, DR; Dr. N. B. Jadav, DEE; Dr. Y. H. Ghelani, Registrar and Dr. P. D. Kumawat, Principal and Dean, along with the professor and heads of various departments, faculty members, and hostel rectors, remained present.



Awareness Programme on the SSIP 2.0

An Awareness Programme on the SSIP 2.0 Application Process was conducted on October 9, 2025 at CAET, JAU, Junagadh, with the participation of PG students and faculty members. Dr. C. S. Matholiya, SSIP Coordinator, CAET, JAU, Junagadh, coordinated the session and familiarized students with the SSIP 2.0 grant application process, including eligibility criteria, policy guidelines, and key benefits of the scheme.

NSS Activities

NSS Special Camp and Cleanliness Drive

The NSS Unit of the Polytechnic in Agro Processing organized a 7-day Special Camp (October 3–9, 2025) at Choki village, Junagadh, involving cleanliness drives, plantation, expert lectures, and community outreach activities. A one-day NSS Camp and cleanliness drive was also held on November 8, 2025 at Laldhori Farm, JAU. Both programmes were successfully coordinated by Dr. A. M. Shingala, NSS Programme Officer, under the guidance of Dr. N. K. Dhamsaniya, Principal of the Polytechnic in Agro-Processing.



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A Fitness Awareness Camp was organized by CoA, JAU, Jamnagar, currently functioning at Targhadia, on December 12, 2025, commemorating International Universal Health Coverage Day. Dr. Jatin Makwana, Head of Physiotherapy, CHC Kuvadva, and his professional team rendered their medical expertise. A total of 50 students and faculty members availed the benefit of free health check-ups, during which important fitness parameters such as body fat percentage, pulmonary function, and muscle strength tests were evaluated.



Swasth Nari, Shaskat Nari Abhiyaan

The NSS Unit of ASPEE CoA, JAU, Khapat organized lectures under the Swasth Nari, Shashakt Parivaar Abhiyaan, a nationwide health initiative of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, GoI, on October 1, 2025. Prof. D. P. Prajapati and Dr. Prakashsinh Rathava, faculty members from the college, served as the resource persons and rendered their informative lectures covering women's health, nutrition, hygiene, and the importance of mental well-being in building a healthy family.



Expert Lecture on Preventive Health Awareness

An expert lecture on “Effective Preventive Approach to Tuberculosis, Thalassemia and Related Diseases” was organized under NSS on December 13, 2025 at the Polytechnic in Agro Processing, Junagadh. The session was delivered by Dr. Swayam Prakash Pandey, City TB Officer, Junagadh Municipal Corporation, and was successfully coordinated by NSS Programme Officer Dr. A. M. Shingala.

Awareness Seminar on Cybersecurity and Nasha Mukti

The SRC Cell of ASPEE College of Agriculture, JAU, Khapat organized a Dual Awareness Seminar on Cybercrime and Substance Abuse (Nasha Mukti) to sensitize students on key issues affecting youth. The sessions highlighted awareness, self-

control, community support, and national helplines. The programme was guided by Dr. H. R. Vadar, Principal, and delivered by Shri S. K. Jadeja, PSI, Cybercrime Police Station, Gujarat Police.

Additionally, the NSS Unit of the Polytechnic in Horticulture, Junagadh observed Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyaan on October 14, 2025 through an oath-taking ceremony.



The NSS unit of CoA, JAU, Mota Bhandariya organized a Cyber Security Awareness Program on October 1, 2025, with the participation of 120 NSS volunteers and staff. Shri Kishanbhai Solanki, UHC, Amreli, delivered an informative session on cybercrimes, social media threats, and safety measures.

To commemorate the 5th anniversary of the “Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan (NMBA)”, as directed by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, GoI, CoA, JAU, Mota Bhandariya organized a Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan Pledge Ceremony on November 18, 2025, with the participation of 71 NSS volunteers. The programme aimed to create awareness about the harmful effects of substance abuse and encourage collective efforts toward a drug-free society.

Poshan Maah Lecture

A lecture under Poshan Maah-2025 was organized by the NSS Unit of ASPEE CoA, JAU, Khapat on October 1, 2025. The expert lecture was delivered by Dr. P. J. Rathod, Associate Professor at the college, who highlighted the importance of balanced nutrition, micronutrients and healthy food habits.

Tree Plantation Programme



The NSS volunteers of CoA, JAU, Mota Bhandariya organized a Tree Plantation Programme under the campaign “Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam” on October 04, 2025.

NSS Activities under Viksit Bharat Initiatives

NSS volunteers of ASPEE College of Agriculture, JAU, Khapat actively participated in the Viksit Bharat Online Quiz on October 13, 2025, organized by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports under the Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue (VBYLD) 2026 initiative.

An awareness programme on Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan was also organized by the NSS unit of College of Agriculture, Mota Bhandariya on October 17, 2025, highlighting sustainable agriculture practices. Further, Ms. Rubina Akhtar, a student of College of



Agriculture, Junagadh, qualified through quiz and essay rounds to reach the state-level PPT Challenge at Gandhinagar and was subsequently selected for the Leadership Round of the National Level Youth Festival-VBYLD held in New Delhi in January 2026.

Lecture on 'Gender Equality: From Awareness to Action'

The NSS Unit and Gender Harassment-cum-Women Development Cell of CoA, JAU, Mota Bhandariya jointly organized a guest lecture on 'Gender Equality: From Awareness to Action' on November 01, 2025.



Dr. Jayati Vachhani, a Yoga Trainer and Naturopathy Therapist, served as the resource person and delivered an informative and interactive talk on gender equality, women empowerment, and respectful behaviour, highlighting different forms of harassment and ways to address them. A Yoga session was also organized. The event was attended by 125 students and staff of the college.

Commemorates 150 Years of National Song

To commemorate 150 years of the National Song, the NSS Unit of the Polytechnic in Horticulture, Junagadh organized a 'Vande Mataram' singing event on November 7, 2025. A total of 60 students and 7 staff members participated enthusiastically, celebrating unity, patriotism, and national pride.

'Har Ghar Swadeshi- Ghar Ghar Swadeshi' Campaign

Swadeshi awareness programmes were organized at the College of Agriculture, JAU, Mota Bhandariya; Polytechnic in Horticulture, Junagadh; and CAET, JAU, Junagadh during November-December 2025 under initiatives like "Har Ghar Swadeshi" and "Vocal for Local." Activities included lectures, pledge campaigns, essay competition, and a Swadeshi Marathon, promoting the use of indigenous products, self-reliance, and national pride.



Junagadh Mukti Diwas

To commemorate "Junagadh Mukti Diwas – 2025," the Junagadh District Administration organized an 8 km-long march on November 9, 2025. JAU authorities, NSS Programme Officers, Assistant Rectors, and other university officials and staff members took active part in the event.

More than 1,200 students, NSS volunteers, and NCC cadets enthusiastically participated in the march, carrying the national flag and spreading the message of national unity, peace, and patriotism.



Birth Anniversary of "Bhagwan Birsa Munda"

To mark the 150th birth anniversary of Bhagwan Birsa Munda, the NSS Unit of the Polytechnic in Horticulture, Junagadh organized an elocution competition on November 15, 2025. Earlier, 40 NSS volunteers participated in the district-level Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh Utsav programme. Seven students took part in the competition, and prizes were awarded to the top three participants.

Gujarat State Inter-Agricultural University Kabaddi and Kho-Kho Competitions

The Directorate of Students' Welfare, JAU, Junagadh hosted the Gujarat State Inter-Agricultural University Kabaddi (Boys) and Kho-Kho (Boys) competitions. The inauguration ceremony was held under the chairmanship of Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble

Vice-Chancellor of JAU On November 18, 2025. Prof. Pratapsinh Chauhan, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of Bhakt Kavi Narsinh Mehta University, graced the occasion as Chief Guest and inaugurator. Dr. M. P. Trada, Principal of Commerce College, Junagadh, attended as Special Guest along with university officers and staff members. A total of 98 students from all four agricultural universities participated in the competitions.



Inter-College and Inter-Polytechnic Sports Tournament

The Inter-College and Inter-Polytechnic Sports Tournament concluded successfully with enthusiastic participation from various constituent colleges and polytechnics. The event showcased remarkable teamwork, discipline, and sportsmanship among the students. In the Inter-College category, College of Agriculture, Junagadh emerged as the overall dominant performer by securing first positions in Cricket (Men), Volleyball (Men), Volleyball (Women), Basketball (Men), and Basketball (Women). In the Inter-Polytechnic category, Polytechnic in Horticulture, Junagadh secured first position in Cricket (Men), while Polytechnic in Agriculture, Dhari, Amreli claimed first place in Kho-Kho (Men).

Inter College Cultural Competition

The Inter College Cultural Competition 2025–26 was organized by CAET, JAU, Junagadh, on November 17, 2025. The event saw enthusiastic participation from on-campus and off-campus colleges, showcasing students' creativity and team spirit.

In One Act Play, College of Agriculture (CoA), Junagadh secured first position. In Mime, CoA, Junagadh also stood first. In Monoacting, Tandel Chintan D. from College of Horticulture (CoH), Junagadh secured first place. In Folk Dance, the team from CoA, Junagadh achieved first position.



University Teams Win at SAUs Tournament

Students of the university participated in the SAU Volleyball and Basketball (Men & Women) Tournament 2025–26 held at SDAU, S.K. Nagar, Dantiwada, on November 7, 2025. The Volleyball (Women) team and the Basketball teams emerged as champions in their respective events under the guidance of Dr. B. S. Gohil, with support from team managers Dr. T. H. Borkhatariya and Dr. Mital A. Dudhat.



Moreover, A team of four girl students participated West Zone- Table Tennis (W), which was held during December 16-19, 2025 at Veer Narmad South Gujarat University, Surat, Gujarat.

JAU Staff Sports Tournament

The JAU Staff Tournament was organized from December 25–28, 2025, featuring Cricket, Badminton, Table Tennis, and Chess. The event was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Dr. V. P. Chovatia, who emphasized the importance of sports in promoting teamwork and a positive work environment.



In Cricket, “Dhurandhar XI” emerged as champions, with Prof. D. K. Gojiya being named “Man of the Series.” In individual events, Mr. M. K. Gamit won Badminton, Dr. S. V. Lathiya secured first place in Table Tennis, and Mr. Jay Khaniya won in Chess. The tournament was successfully coordinated by Dr. R. M. Solanki (DSW), Dr. N. V. Kanani (Physical Instructor), and Mr. P. R. Mathukia, whose dedicated efforts ensured the smooth conduct of the event.

Live Webcast of Kisan Samman Diwas Celebration

Kisan Samman Diwas, or National Farmers' Day, is celebrated annually on December 23 in India to mark the birth anniversary of Chaudhary Charan Singh, the 5th Prime Minister.

Established in 2001, it honors his dedication to farmers' welfare, agricultural reforms, and rural development. A live webcast of the address by the Hon'ble Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare was organized on December 23, 2025 at the Directorate of Extension Education and all KVKs of JAU in connection with the celebration of Kisan Samman Diwas.



The programme aimed to create awareness among farmers about the Viksit Bharat-Gram Ji Bill, 2025. The programme at JAU was attended by Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Dr. N. B. Jadav, DEE, Shri S. M. Gadhesariya, Joint Director of Agriculture (Extension) and Dr. H. C. Chhodavadiya, ADE.

Skill Development Training on Home Science

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, JAU, Nana Kandhasar, in collaboration with the District Horticulture Department, Surendranagar, organized a training programme on October 10, 2025 at Karol village. Dr. J. N. Vyas, Senior Scientist & Head, delivered a lecture on value addition of cereals and millets, and pickle preparation for entrepreneurship development. A total of 32 farm women participated in the training.



Collaborative Training with State Animal Husbandry Department – Surendranagar

KVK, JAU, Nana Kandhasar, in collaboration with the District Animal Husbandry Department, Surendranagar, organized a training programme on December 20, 2025 at the KVK campus. Dr. Nayakpara, retired Deputy Director of Animal Husbandry, emphasized livestock-based entrepreneurship, while Dr. R. P. Kalma, Scientist, KVK Nana Kandhasar, guided participants on animal housing, disease management and feeding practices. Dr. J. A. Patel, Veterinary Officer, Surendranagar, provided technical guidance on fodder production and silage making. A total of 40 farmers and farm women participated and appreciated the practical training.



Intra-State Farmers' Training Programme

A three-day intra-state farmers' training programme was organized on December 23, 2025 at Kisan Vikas Bhavan, Sardar Smruti Kendra, JAU, Junagadh, through the joint efforts of the Directorate of Extension Education and the ATMA Project, Junagadh and Gandhinagar, under the chairmanship of Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, JAU. The programme was attended by Dr. N. B. Jadav, DEE, Shri S. M. Gadhesariya, Joint Director of Agriculture (Extension) and Dr. H. C. Chhodavadiya, ADE. A total of 125 farmers participated in the training programme.



Training Programme Organized at SSK

Sardar Smruti Kendra, Directorate of Extension Education, Junagadh Agricultural University, Junagadh organized a total of five on-campus and four off-campus training programmes. The on-campus trainings benefited 224 trainees from AKRSP(I)-Devbhumi Dwarka, GNFC-Amreli, Rajkot, Junagadh and Gir Somnath, while the off-campus programmes were conducted especially for farm women, with 228 participants. During these programmes, training literature was distributed to all participants.



Exposure Visits to JAU Campus

Under the guidance of Dr. N. B. Jadav, Director of Extension Education, JAU, Junagadh, a total of 1,465 farmers, farm women and students from different areas visited the JAU campus. During these exposure visits, participants were provided useful information on various activities of the University.



Awards and Accolades

Excellence in Extension Award

Dr. H. C. Chhodavadiya, Associate Extension Educationist, Directorate of Extension Education, JAU, Junagadh, was honoured with the “Excellence in Extension Award” during the International Conference on Sustainable Innovations in Agriculture, Veterinary and Allied Sciences (SIAVAS-2025). The conference was held from December 29-31, 2025 at the University of Agricultural Sciences, Raichur, Karnataka, and was jointly organized by UAS Raichur and NADCL, Baramulla.



Best KVK Professional Award

Dr. Minaxi K. Bariya received the Best KVK Professional Award” during the 2nd International Extension Education Congress on “ Rethinking social ecology in a digital landscape organized by Society of Extension Education, Agra held at Faculty of Agricultural Sciences Siksha 'O' Anusandhan, Bhubaneswar, Odisha during 24-26, November 2025 on international platform.



Best Extension Professional & Best oral presentation Awards

In the event, Dr. Kiran Chandravadia, Associate Professor, CoA, JAU, Mota Bhandariya (Amreli), was conferred with the “Best Extension Professional Award” and the “Best Oral Presentation Award”.



Best Poster Presentation Award

Dr. Bansee Devani, Assistant Professor, Department of Processing and Food Engineering, CAET, Junagadh received First Rank in Best Poster Presentation at the 59th ISAE Convention Education and International Conference held at ICAR–CIAE, Bhopal during 10–12 November 2025. The award was conferred by Shri Bhagirath Choudhary, Hon'ble Minister of State, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, GoI, in the august presence of Dr. S. N. Jha, Deputy Director General (Engineering), ICAR and President, ISAE, along with other eminent dignitaries.



Best Poster Presentation Award

Dr. J. R. Talaviya, Assistant Professor, Department of Plant Pathology, CoA, JAU, Junagadh, was awarded the “Best Poster Presentation Award” in the International Conference on “ChemBio 360: Interdisciplinary Insights,” organized by Bhakta Kavi Narsinh Mehta University (BKNMU) at Probandar during October 8-9, 2025 at Porbandar.



Best NCC Cadet Medal

Cadet Corporal Ajay Chandrapal, NCC cadet of the College of Agriculture, Junagadh, has been awarded the Best Cadet Medal of the 8 Gujarat Battalion, Junagadh. The medal was presented by the Group Commander, Rajkot Group Headquarters, during a ceremony held on October 13, 2025, at Rajkot.



JAU Awardees of the JAI-SARDAR National Seminar

The ICAR, New Delhi-sponsored National seminar on “Jumpstarting Agricultural Initiatives for Sustainable Agriculture, Rural Development and Augmenting Regional Collaborations (JAI-SARDAR),” was organized by the Department of Agricultural Economics, CoA, JAU, Junagadh, on December 23, 2025.

The following faculty members and students from the university received the awards for Best Paper, Oral Presentation and Poster categories under various themes and sessions:

Faculty	Student	Position
Best Paper Award		
Alvira A. Rajwadi	Devra, S. J	First
Sujitkumar Dahima	-	Second
Trupti D. Pansara	-	Third
Ghelani, M. K.	-	Third
T. H. Borkhatariya	-	Third
Best Poster Award		
R. H. Chaudhary	Sanapala R. Keerthi	First
Ashok Kumar M. Butani	-	First
Kalpesh Kumar	-	First
Ashishkumar Vala	Rupal Chastha	Second
K. K. Kanzariya	Yuvarj V. Rajput	Second
-	Karthiga R	Second
Alpeshkumar J. Barad	Pokiya Nikeeta J.	Third
Deep Kakkad	Anushree A	Third

Best Oral Presentation Award

P. D. Kumawat S.	Bhattacharya	First
D. V. Patel	Alpa Karmur	First
Shilpa Trivedi	Richa Rana	First
Bhuva Sachinkumar	Heena	First
Dr. Sanjay K. Parmar		First
Shraddha B. Bhatt	Vaghasiya Divij	Second
Deep Kakkad	Anjali P B	Second
Hiten Mehata	Vora Krishna	Second
M N Dhabhi	-	Second
Haresh Chavda	-	Second
Lathiya Sandeepkumar	Kavana Patil	Third
Keval Hirpara	Kamal Kishor Jalthariya	Third
Keval V. Ram	-	Third

Superannuated Faculty/Staff
JAU Parivar Wishes All for a Hale and Healthy Second-Innings Ahead

Sr No.	Name and Designation	Designation
October - 2025		
1.	Shri V. R. Vagadia	Asst. Professor
2.	Shri A.B. Sindhu	Chokidar
November - 2025		
3	Shri G.K. Badelia	Peon
December – 2025		
4	Shri L.B. Chavda	Peon



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Directorate of Extension Education
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