

Govind Ballabh Pant University of Agriculture and Technology Pantnagar, District- Udham Singh Nagar (Uttarakhand)

College of Agriculture Ushers in New Year 2025 with Festive Celebrations

Pantnagar. 2 January 2025. The College of Agriculture celebrated the New Year 2025 with a grand event under the chairmanship of Dr. S.K. Kashyap, Dean of the College, and the coordination of Dr. Ranjan Srivastava, Secretary BOFA. Honourable Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Manmohan Singh Chauhan, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest.

The event was honored by the presence of the Honourable Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Manmohan Singh Chauhan, who served as the Chief Guest. His participation brought prestige and inspiration to the occasion, which featured impactful activities celebrating excellence and dedication. In his address, Dr. Chauhan urged scientists to focus on ideas/innovation, application, and strategy, encapsulating the concept of "IAS." He elaborated that by integrating these elements, the university could achieve significant outcomes in the form of technology, patents, and publications. Highlighting the importance of Indigenous Technical Knowledge (ITK), he emphasized the need for translating research into practical applications. Dr. Chauhan also stressed enhancing payment seats and developing PPP-mode hostel facilities to support institutional growth. He underlined the importance of gratitude and encouraged everyone to take an oath to avoid ego. Advocating for healthy practices, he remarked that one hour of laughter adds an hour to life, and one hour of walking improves work efficiency. He emphasized teamwork as a critical component of success and announced that faculty achieving a NAAS rating above 10 in the coming year would be rewarded with bonuses. His address was a call to action for fostering innovation, collaboration, and a positive mindset to drive the university's progress.

Dr. Kashyap eloquently articulated the core values and aspirations of the College of Agriculture, emphasizing its commitment to fostering a culture of excellence and innovation. He stated, "Our motto is to promote faculty excellence and motivate students so that the university achieves greater heights." Elaborating further, he highlighted the pivotal role of faculty members as the driving force behind the university's academic and research achievements, underscoring their responsibility to inspire, mentor, and guide students towards their full potential. Dr. Kashyap emphasized that the College of Agriculture is not just an academic institution but a hub of innovation, striving to address contemporary challenges in agriculture through cutting-edge research and practical solutions. He reiterated the importance of aligning education with real-world applications, ensuring that students graduate with not only theoretical knowledge but also the skills and resilience needed to contribute meaningfully to the agricultural sector.

The event began with Dr. Srivastava welcoming dignitaries and presenting plans to expand payment seats in B.Sc. Agriculture and B.Sc. Food Technology programs. Certificates of recognition were awarded to teams leading AICRP projects, including Dr. S.K. Verma and team for Pulses, Dr. Rupali Sharma and team for Biological Control of Crops, Dr. S.K. Mishra for Mushrooms, and Dr. D.K. Singh and team for Organic Farming. Additionally, 17 retired faculty members from different departments were honored for their significant contributions. The celebration reflected the institution's commitment to excellence, innovation, and societal impact, marking a promising start to the New Year.

The New Year celebration centered around five major highlights: [1] **Annual Report Released:** A key highlight of the celebration was the release of the Annual Report for 2025, meticulously prepared by the College Core Action Group under the guidance of Dr. Kashyap. The Annual Report serves as a comprehensive documentation of the college's achievements over the past year. It showcases milestones in research, teaching, and outreach activities while emphasizing the strides made in agricultural innovation and education. The report also outlines the college's vision for the future, aiming to enhance its contribution to the agricultural sector and rural development. Speaking at the event, Dr. Kashyap highlighted the importance of documenting and celebrating the progress of the institution. He stated, "*The Annual Report is not just a reflection of our achievements but a roadmap for our aspirations. It encapsulates the hard work of our faculty, staff, and students in pushing the boundaries of knowledge and innovation.*" The Honorable Vice-Chancellor formally launched the book, signifying a proud and significant moment for the college. [2] **Faculty Excellence Awards:** The event recognized the exceptional contributions of faculty members through the Faculty Excellence Awards. Awards were presented based on the following criteria: [a] Faculty members with research papers having a NAAS rating above 6 or a high Thomson Reuters Impact Factor. [b] Faculty members leading projects with funding exceeding ₹25 lakhs. [c] Faculty who achieved significant milestones, such as developing new crop varieties, releasing notable germplasm, receiving national awards, attaining

fellowships from professional scientific societies, or making other remarkable contributions to their field. These awards highlighted the college's commitment to fostering a culture of academic and research excellence. A total of 46 students and 83 faculty members were honored with awards. [3] **Honoring Retired Faculty Members:** In a touching gesture, retired faculty members residing in the vicinity of the university were honored for their invaluable contributions to the institution. The recognition highlighted the university's enduring respect and gratitude toward its former educators, reinforcing the strong bond between past and present faculty members. [4] **Student Awards:** The event also celebrated the achievements of students: Students with research papers having a NAAS rating above 6 were awarded for their academic excellence and contribution to the field of agricultural research. Undergraduate students achieving 100% attendance were also recognized, promoting discipline and dedication in their academic pursuits.

The program concluded with a heartfelt vote of thanks, marking the end of a memorable and inspiring event. During the program, Dean PGS, Dr. K. P. Raverkar, along with all departmental heads, faculty members, and a large number of students, members of CCAG group were present. Their active participation added to the success of the event, reflecting the collective commitment of the College of Agriculture towards achieving its goals of academic excellence and societal contribution.



Vice-Chancellor Dr. Manmohan Singh Chauhan addressing in the programme.

Director Communication