Introduction of the University

Forty one years in the Service of Farming Community of Himachal Pradesh

Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vishvavidyalaya (renamed as Chaudhary Sarwan Kumar Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vishvavidyalaya in June, 2001) was established on 1st November, 1978. The College of Agriculture (established in May, 1966) formed the nucleus of the new farm University. It is ICAR accredited and ISO 9001:2015 certified institution. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has ranked this University at eleventh place among all farm universities of the country.

The University has been given the mandate for making provision for imparting education in agriculture and other allied branches of learning, furthering the advancement of learning and prosecution of research and undertaking extension of such sciences, especially to the rural people of Himachal Pradesh.

Over the years, this University has contributed significantly in transforming the farm scenario of Himachal Pradesh. Today, the State has earned its name for hill agricultural diversification and the farming community has imposed its faith in the University.

Academic Programmes

The University has four constituent colleges. The College of Agriculture has 13 departments, Dr.G.C.Negi College of Veterinary & Animal Sciences has 18 departments, the College of Home Science has five departments and the College of Basic Sciences has four departments. These colleges offer five Bachelor Degree programmes and the Dean, Post Graduate Studies offers 14 Masters Degree and 7 Doctoral Degree programmes.

At present 1643 students (943 girls & 700 boys) are on roll from six foreign countries and 14 Indian states. Around 7050 students have passed out from the University since its inception. In addition to world class academic, sports and co-curricular facilities, there are ten students’ hostels, including one International Students’ Hostel.

Research Activities

The Directorate of Research coordinates research in the field of agriculture, veterinary and animal sciences, home science and basic sciences. It has been giving priority to the location specific, need based and problem oriented research
with multidisciplinary approach at main campus Palampur, 3 Regional Research Stations (Bajaura, Dhaulakuan & Kukumseri) and 10 Research Sub-stations (Kangra, Malan, Nagrota, Salooni, Akrot, Berthin Sundernagar, Sangla, Leo & Lari) situated in all the districts of the State (except Solan and Shimla).

The University has developed need-based technologies for the different regions of the State and has released 155 improved varieties of different crops. Around 800 quintal breeder seed and around 1000 quintal foundation seed of cereals, pulses, oilseeds, vegetable and fodder crops is produced and supplied to the State Department of Agriculture for further multiplication and making it available to the farming community. Around 100 farm technologies have been recommended to the farmers. To enhance crop and animal productivity, the University has developed suitable technologies in the areas of crop improvement, animal breeding, disease combating, natural resources management, etc. Besides continuing research on organic farming in hill agriculture, the University was first in the country to establish a zero budget natural farming centre and initiated research for safe farm produce, the concept adopted by the central government in its budget this year.

For doubling the farmers’ income by 2022 as envisaged by the government, twenty farm based models have been formulated and shared with the agriculture and animal husbandry departments of the State government. Efforts have been made to educate and motivate the farmers to adopt the models as per the agro-climatic conditions of their area and their requirements.

**Extension Education**

The Directorate of Extension Education shares the responsibility for planning, implementation and coordination of various extension education programmes of all the departments of four constituent colleges and research stations in close collaboration with the State Departments of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Fisheries and other concerned departments and institutions. It conducts a large number of trainings for farmers, livestock keepers, farm ladies, rural youth, etc. at main campus and at its eight *Krishi Vigyan Kendras* (Farm Science Centres) at Bajaura, Dhaulakuan, Hamirpur, Una, Mandi, Kangra, Berthin and Kukumseri. During the last one year, Union Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers’ Welfare has sanctioned Model Training Courses also. Various skill enhancement trainings sponsored by Agricultural Skill Council of India are also conducted. Natural Farming activities are being undertaken by all Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) and KVKs have adopted one village each for Natural Farming.
The Agricultural Technology Information Center is serving as a single window service to the farmers.

The Media Cell projects and protects the image of the University among target clients and others by various Public Relations and Communication tools.

A massive infrastructure to fulfill the mandate and realize objectives has been created at main campus Palampur, all Research Stations and Krishi Vigyan Kendras. The main clients viz. the farmers and the students are provided quality facilities in the form of training halls, farmers’ hostels, transportation, students’ hostels, play ground & gymnasium, placement cell, etc.

Among the leading universities in the hill regions of the country, this University has emerged as torch bearer for all. It is considered most peaceful institution in the region with very conducive atmosphere to pursue academic and research activities.

Due to the sincere and arduous work during the past forty one years in the University, the State has achieved new standing in the area of agriculture. Despite constant decrease in area under farming, crop yields have increased. The State has earned name in commercial agriculture, especially off-season vegetable cultivation. Harvests have become bountiful and the socio-economic status of the farming community has improved significantly.

**Vital Statistics**

**Academic programmes**

Bachelor degree programmes = 5

Masters Degree programmes = 14 (9 Agri. and 5 Vety. & AH.)

Doctoral degree programmes = 7 (Agriculture)

**Varieties Released by the University**

The University has released 155 improved varieties of different crops (Wheat 24, Paddy 23, Maize 9, Barley 6, Pulses 24, Vegetables 29, Oilseeds 23, Buckwheat 2, Sugarcane 1, Fodder 12 and Tea 2).

**Staff Strength**
Teachers/Scientists=234, Non-teachers=965

Area

Total Area at main campus: 397 hectares, Area at Out stations/KVKs: 190 ha

* As on 31 Oct 2019

Important Telephone Numbers/Emails

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Conceptualized, compiled and edited by Dr.Hiday Paul Singh, Joint Director (Information & Public Relations) for and on behalf of CSK Himachal Pradesh Agriculture University, Palampur 176062 INDIA