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Review meeting of DBT- network project

The review meeting of the DBT-sponsored network project on applications of biotechnology in millets, coordinated by NRCS, was held at the University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore on 15 June, 2007. Dr. PG Chengappa, Vice-chancellor of UAS, Bangalore inaugurated the meet. Dr. TK Prabhakara Setty, Director of Research, and various heads of the constituent colleges of the University also spoke on the occasion. The project monitoring team was represented by Dr. KK Narayanan, MD, Metahelix Life sciences, Bangalore and Dr. CT Hash, Principal Scientist, ICRISAT, Patancheru besides the DBT adviser Dr. RR Sinha. Twelve subprojects of the network including three from NRCS were reviewed. Dr. N. Seetharama, Director, NRCS is the coordinator of the network. The committee lauded the programme in the most of the subprojects, and advised on means of overcoming shortfall.

Dr SN Shukla visits NRCS

A meeting with Dr. SN Shukla, ADG (F&FC), ICAR New Delhi was held on 7 June 2007. The scientists along with Director



Dr. SN Shukla being explained developmental works in the institute

discussed on various issues relating to financial and technical requirements at NRCS for the year 2007-08. Issues relating to strengthening of CRS Solapur, Effective utility of OSN Warangal Centre, and creation of centralized DNA fingerprinting facility that can be used by the entire ICAR sister institutes at Hyderabad were discussed. Achievements under mega seed project and plans for the year 2007-08 were

समाचार सारांश

डी.बी.टी. नेटवर्क परियोजना की समीक्षा बैठक : रा.ज्वा.अनु.कें. द्वारा समन्वित, मिल्लेटों में जैवप्रौद्योगिकी का प्रयोग पर डी.बी.टी. प्रवर्तित नेटवर्क परियोजना की समीक्षा बैठक 15 जून 2007 को कृषि विज्ञान विश्वविद्यालय, बेंगलुरु में आयोजित की गई। डॉ. एन. सीतारामा, निदेशक इस नेटवर्क के समन्वयन हैं।

रा.ज्वा.अनु.कें. में डॉ. एस.एन. शुक्ला का दौरा : डॉ. एस.एन. शुक्ला, सहायक महानिदेशक (खाद्य तथा चारा फसल), मा.कृ.अनु.प. नई दिल्ली के साथ 7 जून 2007 को एक बैठक आयोजित की गई। संस्थान के निदेशक एवं अन्य वैज्ञानिकों ने वर्ष 2007-08 हेतु संस्थान की वित्तीय तथा तकनीकी आवश्यकताओं संबंधी विभिन्न मुद्दों पर उनके साथ विचार-विमर्श किया।

भा.कृ.अनु.प.-इक्रिसैट भागीदारी परियोजना पर सामूहिक बैठक : "बायो-इंटेसिव अप्रोचस फॉर डिजिज एंड न्यूट्रिएंट मैनेजमेंट इन सोरगम" नामक भा.कृ.अनु.प.-इक्रिसैट भागीदारी परियोजना पर चर्चा हेतु 5 जून 2007 को इक्रिसैट, हैदराबाद में एक सामूहिक बैठक आयोजित की गई।

"औषध-मुक्त जीवन" पर स्वास्थ्य संगोष्ठी : रा.ज्वा.अनु.कें. में 14 जून 2007 को डॉ. प्रकाश कोल्हे, राष्ट्रीय शिक्षा, सिकन्दराबाद ने औषध-मुक्त जीवन पर एक व्याख्यान दिया तथा बताया कि जीवन को औषध-मुक्त रखने में प्राणायाम, योगासन, प्रातःकालीन पैदल-सैर का अत्यधिक महत्व है।

निर्वाचन आयोग को रा.ज्वा.अनु.कें. के तकनीकी कर्मियों की सेवाएं : रा.ज्वा.अनु.कें. के कुल 22 तकनीकी कर्मियों ने 20 मई से 20 जून 2007 तक निर्वाचन आयोग को अपनी सेवाएं प्रदान की।

फ्रंटलाइन डेमांड स्ट्रेशन पर अनुभव आदान-प्रदान गोष्ठी : डॉ. धारी अप्पाजी ने 8 जून 2007 को ज्वार के फ्रंटलाइन डेमांड स्ट्रेशन पर एक व्याख्यान दिया।

संस्थान की विविध बैठकें

राजस्व वसूली समिति की बैठक : रा.ज्वा.अनु.कें. की राजस्व वसूली समिति की 8वीं बैठक डॉ. एस. आदिलशमी की अध्यक्षता में 21 जून 2007 को संपन्न हुई।

अनुसंधान प्रबंधन समिति : केंद्र की अनुसंधान प्रबंधन समिति की 2री बैठक निदेशक, रा.ज्वा.अनु.कें. की अध्यक्षता में 8 जून 2007 को आयोजित की गई। इस बैठक में XI योजना हेतु कार्ययोजना, रा.ज्वा.अनु.कें. की मुख्य परियोजनाओं तथा विभिन्न परियोजनाओं हेतु वर्तमान बजट का आबंटन मुद्दों पर विचार किया गया।

संस्थान के संयुक्त कर्मचारी परिषद् की बैठक : संस्थान के संयुक्त कर्मचारी परिषद् की 9वीं बैठक 23 जून 2007 को संपन्न हुई।

रा.ज्वा.अनु.कें. के स्टाफ मनोरंजन क्लब की बैठक : संस्थान के स्टाफ मनोरंजन क्लब की 9वीं बैठक 23 जून 2007 को संपन्न हुई।

भा.कृ.अनु.प. कर्मचारी कल्याण निधि योजना की प्रबंधन समिति की बैठक : रा.ज्वा.अनु.कें. के कर्मचारी कल्याण निधि योजना की प्रबंधन समिति की पहली बैठक 23 जून 2007 को हुई।

राजमाषा कार्यान्वयन समिति की बैठक : संस्थान की राजमाषा कार्यान्वयन समिति की बैठक डॉ. एन. सीतारामा, निदेशक की अध्यक्षता में 23 जून 2007 को आयोजित की गई।

सेवा-निवृत्त : रा.ज्वा.अनु.कें. को अपनी लंबी सेवाएं प्रदान करने के पश्चात् श्री एच एस वैवन (T-5), श्री एन चंद्रय्या (T-3) तथा श्री के एस रत्नम् (T-2) 30 जून 2007 को सेवा-निवृत्त हुए।

आगामी कार्यक्रम

दो-दिवसीय पणघारक कार्यशाला : "मिल्लेटों की विविधता एवं मूल्य-संवर्धन के माध्यम से खाद्य, पोषण सुरक्षा तथा आय बढ़ाना" नामक परियोजना पर पूर्ण प्रस्ताव तैयार करने हेतु 2-3 जुलाई 2007 को एक दो-दिवसीय पणघारक कार्यशाला का आयोजन किया जाएगा।

हिंदी सारानुवाद : डॉ. महेश कुमार

reviewed. Dr. Shukla appreciated the NRCS's efforts to commercialize the technologies and also advised on licensing aspects of national hybrids and varieties. Dr. Shukla was

also shown the new facilities and civil construction works. The whole group is felt that a proposal for upgrading millet work under ICAR's umbrella into an institute.

Group Meeting on ICAR-ICRISAT Partnership Project

Group meeting to discuss on ICAR-ICRISAT Partnership Project entitled "Bio-intensive approaches for disease and nutrient management in sorghum" was held at ICRISAT, Hyderabad on 5 June, 2007. Dr. IK Das met with Drs. RP Thakur, OP Rupela and Rajan Sharma, and other scientists from ICRISAT and briefly discussed the results of last year's experiments. They further discussed and finalized the experimental details for the year 2007-08, which will begin with inspection of experimental site at Solapur by a joint ICRISAT-NRCS team.

Half-day health seminar on "Medicine-free life"

Dr Prakash Kolhe, lecturer from "National Education" Secunderabad, delivered a seminar on 14 June 2007 on "Medicine free life". He highlighted that the practice of naturopathy such as, *Pranayama*, *Yoga*, and physical calisthenics is nothing but the harnessing one's own inner



Dr Kolhe addressing the gathering on "medicine free life"

power, which helps to keep fit without any physical and psychological problems to realize peaceful means of achieving personal and organizational goals. These therapies in fact heal diseases like diabetics; blood pressure, cardiac disorder; gastric problem without any side effects to enable the individual to work peacefully and double the output. Dr. Kohle has also briefed about the use of magneto-therapy. This seminar stimulated the staff to think about making changes in their lifestyle to lead a healthy life.

NRCS staff serves election commission

A total of 22 technical staff drawn from NRCS worked as designated officers to the election commission through the government of Andhra Pradesh between 20 May and 20 June 2007 to verify the electoral rolls and to receive objections if any from the public. At the outset they were given orientation training for one day on 20th May 2007. The director appreciated the services of the technical staff to the nation under hard working conditions. Scientists stretched the working hours to complete preparations for kharif sowings.

Experience sharing seminar on FLD

An experience sharing seminar on frontline demonstrations on sorghum was delivered by Dr. Chari Appaji, on 8th June 2007 at NRCS, Hyderabad. Dr. DM Hegde, Director, Directorate of oilseeds, Hyderabad and scientists involved in the technology transfer and extension from sister ICAR institutes; (DOR, DRR and CRIDA) also participated in the seminar. Dr. Chari informed that the productivity of sorghum has been maintained at the levels of 1997-98 in spite of decrease in the area under

cultivation under sorghum during the period of implementation of FLD. This he attributed to the introduction and adoption of improved sorghum cultivars developed. The other scientists are also shared their experiences relevant to their crops. A publication plan was developed to make best use of available data and to communicate to end-users.

Institute's common meetings

Meeting of Research Management Committee (RMC)

The second meeting of Research Management Committee (RMC) was held on 06 June, 2007 under the chairmanship of Director, NRCS. During the meeting the plan of action for XI plan, NRCS core projects and allocation of current budget for various projects were discussed. The members participated in the deliberations were Drs S Audilakshmi, KBRs Visarada, B Dayakar Rao, VR Bhagwat, B Venkatesh Bhat, and M Elangovan. In addition development of research plan, the group also deliberated on project based budget.

Meeting of Revenue Generation Committee (RGC)

Institute's eighth revenue generation committee meeting was held on 21 June 07 under the chairmanship of Dr. S Audilakshmi. The committee took stock of target set by ICAR and the efforts till date to generate the income. Various possibilities and options to increase the income generation were deliberated action plans were drawn and responsibilities were assigned for execution in a set timeframe. It was suggested that all the staff of NRCS should get involved in innovate income generation initiatives so that we can fulfill the set target. Drs. S Ravikumar, Vilas A Tonapi, Chari Appaji, N Kannababu and Mr. KJ Mathai, NVRN Murty and G Ramulu participated in the meeting.

Meeting of Institute Joint Staff Council Meeting (IJSC)

The IX Institute Joint Staff Council Meeting was held on 23 June, 2007 at 10:30 AM in the Seminar Hall. The following staff members were present in the meeting: Official side: Dr. N Seetharama – Director & Chairman, Dr. S Audilakshmi – Member, Mr. NVRN Murty – Member and Mr. KJ Mathai – Member Secretary; Staff side: Sh. TJ Balakrishna – Secretary (Staff side), Sh. K Yadava Rao – Member (CJSC), Sh. AV Rao, Sh. K Sanath Kumar – Members (Administration), Sh. P Yadaiah and Sh. Dasaratha – Members (Supporting).

The Member-Secretary has presented the action taken report on 3 agenda items such as ID cards for pensioners, Medical facilities for CRS – Solapur and other facilities at CRS – Solapur. The progress was discussed by the members.

Meeting of the NRCS Staff Recreation Club

The IX Meeting of the NRCS Staff Recreation Club Executive Committee Members held on 23 June, 2007 at 11:00 AM in the Seminar Hall. The following members were present in the meeting: Dr. N Seetharama - President, Sh. KJ Mathai - Vice President, Sh. HS Ghaywan – Secretary, Dr. M Elangovan – Joint Secretary, Sh. D. Ram Babu – Treasurer, Dr. HS Talwar – Member (Scientific side), Sh. Pramod Kumar – Member (Technical side), Sh. CH Suresh Kumar – Member (Administration side), Sh. J Narsimha – Member (Supporting side), Sh. TJ Balakrishna – Member (IJSC).

The President welcomed all the members and thanked the Vice-President and the Joint Secretary for organizing this meeting promptly. The Joint Secretary has taken up the action taken report on 4 agenda items such as (a) Pursuing with State Government for allotment of land (b) National functions (c) Organizing picnics and (d) submission of proposals through executive committee members. The Committee has reviewed the same and made some suggestions.

Meeting of the Managing Committee of ICAR Staff Welfare Fund Scheme

Institute's 1st Managing Committee Meeting of the ICAR Staff Welfare Fund Scheme was held on 23 June, 2007 at 11:00 Noon in the NRCS Seminar Hall. The following members were present in the meeting: Dr. N Seetharama - Chairman, Drs. SV Rao & KBRS Visarada Sh. NVRN Murthy –Sh. TJ Balakrishnan, Sh. KJ Mathai, Sh. J Narsimha, All Members, and Sh. A Venkateshwara Rao – Member-Secretary.

The Chairman welcomed the members of the committee. The Member-Secretary informed the Committee that in our Institute the Managing Committee is constituted recently and it is the first meeting of the Committee being conducted for creating awareness among the members about the scheme. The Committee has discussed some of the issues to be taken up in near future.

Meeting of Official Language Implementation Committee (OLIC)

Official Language Implementation Committee (OLIC) Meeting was held on 23 June, 2007. The committee consisting :N Seetarama , Chairman, KJ Mathai, AO, secretary, NVRN Murthy, AFAO, W Srinivas Bhat and A Venkateswar Rao, AAOs, P Mukesh, Scientist, KV Raghavendra Rao, Media Cell, (Members) and Dr Mahesh Kumar, Hindi Translator participated in the meeting. The committee decided to enhance the efforts to promote the use of Hindi in all the administrative correspondences, works and technical publications. Already there is a Hindi section in both our news letters

The complete minutes of all the above meetings are posted at NRCS *intranet*.

Visitors

M Ramasami, Managing Director and Dr. V Subramanian, Vice-President (Biotechnology), Raasi seeds (P) Ltd, Attur, Salem, Tamilnadu visited NRCS on 13 June 07 and have discussions with team of NRCS scientists on possibilities of cultivation on sweet sorghum and its alternate uses.

JV Narasimham, Asst. Vice-President and Suresh Revuru, Managing Partner, Reliance Life Sciences Limited, Hyderabad Visited NRCS on 18 June 07. The team had a brief discussion with the Director and other team of Scientists to promote sweet sorghum as a bio-energy crop and large scale commercial production.

Dr. KV Ramaiah, Research Director and Dr. Ramakrishnan M Nair, Principal coordinator (Technology and New Projects) of Vibha Agro-tech Ltd. Hyderabad visited NRCS on 19 June, 07 to discuss possible collaboration on sorghum research and sweet sorghum production technologies.

Drs. CT Hash and **BV Subba Reddy** from ICRISAT visited



Drs Hash (left) and BVS Reddy (Right) discussing intricacies of research proposals

NRCS on 20 June 07. The team had a discussion with the Director on development of joint research proposals.

Superannuation

Sarvashri HS Gheywan (T-5), **N Chandraiah** (T-I-3), and **KS Ratnam** (T-2) superannuated on 30 June, 07 after their long service to the institute in various capacities. During the



Director presenting mementos to HS Ghywan, N Chandraiah and KS Ratnam

farewell ceremony Director and staff recollected their services to the organization. The staff recreation club presented mementos to them through the Director. The staff wished them a happy and healthy retired life.

Meeting (M)/ Symposia (S)/ Workshop (W)/ Training (T) / Conference (C) attended

S. No	Name of the official	Participated in	Type	Venue	Date
1	M Elangovan	Round table meeting on "Agro-biodiversity hot-spots and biodiversity heritage sites" to present the Agro-biodiversity, agro-climatic and environmental related maps.	M	North Eastern Hilly University (NEHU), Shillong	31 May - 3 June, 07
2	OV Ramana, K Revati & V Ravi Kumar	Training Programme on "Website Development and Maintenance" .	T	NIC, Hyderabad	4 - 8 June 07
3	N Seetharama, IK Das & B Dayakar Rao	Group meeting on "ICAR-ICRISAT Partnership Project"	M	ICRISAT, Patancheru	5 June, 07
4	SS Rao	Review meeting on "Cellulosic ethanol from sweet sorghum bagasse".	M	DBT, New Delhi	7 June, 07
5	N Seetharama & B Dayakar Rao	Sensitization workshop organized by ICAR for the benefit of those who might be awarded a NAIP project to implement under Area 2 or 3.	W	ICAR, New Delhi	12 June, 07

Forthcoming events

Two-day stakeholders' workshop: The concept note on project entitled "Food, nutritional security and income enhancement through diversification and value-addition of millets" submitted for National Agricultural Innovation Project (NAIP) funding has been considered for further development and review by the competent authority. In view of developing full proposal a two-day stakeholders' workshop is scheduled to be held at NRCS, Hyderabad on July 2-3, 2007. Dr. JP Mittal, National Coordinator (Component II), NAIP will facilitate the conduct of the workshop, which will also be graced by the National Director Dr. Mrithyunjaya. About 40 participants (including experts nominated by NAIP, NGOs, Industry personnel, etc.) across the country are expected to participate .

Work shop on "Theory and practice of plant variety protection in India": A Training on the "Theory and practice of plant variety protection in India" is scheduled to be organized from 24-27 July, 2007 at NRCS. Course fee: 10,000/- (inclusive of training material, accommodation and food) payable by demand draft favouring ICAR Unit- NRCS. **For further details contact:** Dr. VA Tonapi(tonapi@nrсорghum.res.in) / Dr. M Elangovan(elangovan@nrсорghum.res.in)

Official Tours

S. No	Name of the Official	Place visited	Dates	Purpose
1	KJ Mathai	IISR, Calicut	12 -16 June, 07	To study the automation of administrative and financial works
2	HS Talwar & AV Umakanth	Deesa, Gujarat	5 – 8 June, 07	To monitor summer sorghum trial and discuss future research collaboration in the area of salinity tolerance
3	N Seetharama, R Madhusudhana, D Balakrishna, and B Venkatesh Bhat	UAS, Bangalore	15 June, 07.	Review of DBT-sponsored network projects on biotechnology of millets.
4	Kumar SR	Kampasagar & Palem	22-23 June, 07	Seed production monitoring under Mega Seed Project at Kampasagar and finalization of FLDs (AICSIP) at Palem.
4	N Seetharama, B Dayakar Rao, KJ Mathai & CV Ratnavathi	APARD, Hyderabad	23 June, 07	Collaboration on extension of Millets research through Panchyatraj Department.
5	N Seetharama	New Delhi	25 June, 07	Meeting called by MoA (Animal husbandry) and to visit to ICGEB.
6	Kumar SR	Mahabubnagar	28 June, 07	Visit of BAIF campus to assess the feasibility to organize FLD and seed production programmes.

Thought for the month

Great works are performed not by strength but by perseverance – *Dr Samuel Johnson*

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To



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