



# Newsletter

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## College reopens: A wave of gushing emotions in students

**Mallika**  
*B.Sc Agriculture, II<sup>nd</sup> Year*



**Palak Chaturvedi**  
*B.Sc Agriculture, II<sup>nd</sup> Year*



The College of Agriculture is a significant part of the University, noted for its unwavering commitment to progress. As the COVID-19 situation was under control and vaccination drives were in full force, the University resumed offline classes in a staged manner. In the first phase, continuing Ph.D. and Masters students, as well as final year undergraduate students, came to campus, followed by second and third year undergraduate students in the second phase. Keeping the safety of everyone in mind, students were required to bring at least a certificate of first dose of vaccine and for students under the age of 18, a negative RT-PCR report was mandatory.

After several months of online classes, the College of Agriculture was all geared up to welcome students back to the classroom. It is being ensured that all students and staff members comply with the guidelines for preventing the spread of COVID-19. Dr. S.K. Kashyap, Dean, College of Agriculture, provided crucial safety and security instructions to the students. Wearing a mask, carrying hand sanitizer, moving as little as possible in public places, sticking to hostel entry times, and avoiding unnecessary trips off-campus are all part of the guidelines that are to be strictly adhered to.

Students greeted the notice announcing the return of offline classes with smiles. They are glad to be back on campus and enjoy the dynamics of college. The process of online learning opens wide doors but offline one-to-one classes are invariably more knowledgeable when it comes particularly to practical experiences. After almost a year of virtual mode, physical classes would surely open new avenues and experiences for the students to learn.

### Student Reflections

"This time I am excited and hopeful that college will not close again. During the pandemic, I realized the importance of offline classes, and the final year is loaded with practical, so learning in physical mode becomes crucial for our future as well. Things are getting back on track and it feels great to be back on campus."

– Neeraj Tiwari (Final Year, B.Sc. Ag.)

"Wait was finally over when someone forwarded the official notice of reopening of colleges to the WhatsApp group. Days packed in a single room with eyes on mobile, laptops from morning to evening was very hard. I'm finally happy that I will only use my phone in the upcoming days for its primary feature i.e. for calling. The moment I entered the University gate, I was relieved with memories. So, I am back to the campus to learn and absorb many things with high enthusiasm and zeal."

– Shantanu Singh (III<sup>rd</sup> year, B.Sc. Ag.)

"The official order relieved us from the predicament of online classes. I am glad we will attend this semester offline. Online classes were quite bothersome, we were missing out on campus life and offline valuable experiences. Finally, we will reach campus and the studies will get back on track, especially extra-curriculars."

– Aaditya Joshi (II<sup>nd</sup> year, B.Sc. Ag.)

"To most people, it is dirt. To the farmer, it is potential."

– Doe Zantamata

## A step towards innovation by College of Agriculture

*Mukul Singh Parihar*  
*B.Sc Agriculture, II<sup>nd</sup> Year*



*Shagun Goyal*  
*B.Sc Agriculture, II<sup>nd</sup> Year*



The Hydroponics and Aeroponics unit have been developed in the premises of College of Agriculture as a training unit for undergraduate students of college. It has been planned to put second year students of the college into these units to work in teams with multiple crops which could be grown effectively in polyhouses through hydroponics and aeroponics technology. Eight different units have been established with separate control units to provide the required nutrients to the plant. 16 students would be working with each unit right from the beginning to have first-hand exposure of this high-tech agriculture and also to get required skills to grow fruits and vegetables in high-tech and precision farming system. The profits of these inputs will be distributed among the students. Two more improvised polyhouses have been developed to teach the students propagation of plants in ornamental crops. A mother nursery of 2,000 plants have been set in these polyhouses. The students would be trained to do propagation through multiple techniques. Talking about the endeavour, Dean, College of Agriculture, Dr. S.K. Kashyap said “It was a long-cherished dream to initiate such skill-based unit in the college so that the graduating students of College of Agriculture get first hand exposure of high-tech agriculture. Through this unit, the dream is fulfilled and the agriculture students will generate much needed

exposure and confidence in technology like hydroponics and aeroponics. The college is also planning to build more units on different high-tech agriculture innovation to provide multiple options to the graduating students.” Innovations and infrastructure like this will help students in going parallel to the modern aspect of technology. This will also open the doors for the future possibilities in high-tech agriculture in the days to come. It is for the first time that the college has created this type of system for high-tech agriculture to train undergraduate students. The objective of this project is that to build the confidence among the students to emerge as entrepreneurs owing high-tech agriculture options. The unit is running through technical inputs from indigenous horticulture project, under the guidance of Dr. V/P. Singh, Professor of Horticulture and Dr. J. P. Purwar, Professor of Entomology and overall execution support from Ms. Pratima Tewari and Mr. Nikhilesh Kumar, both programmers of IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar.



## Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor interacts with all HoDs of the college

### *Future prospects and developmental agendas discussed*

**Prabhat Kumar Singh**  
*B.Sc Agriculture, II<sup>nd</sup> Year*



**Samesha**  
*B.Sc Agriculture, II<sup>nd</sup> Year*



**O**n September 29, 2021, Dr. Tej Partap, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, G.B. Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar visited the College of Agriculture and met with all Head of the Departments of the college and interacted with them discussing the progress of the departments and their future plans. Commencement of the session was done by Dr. S.K. Kashyap, Dean, College of Agriculture, by welcoming Dr. Tej Partap and detailing about the developments of the college as well as the new initiatives taken in the college in order to improvise the system of teaching and learning. All the departmental heads, shared the developmental activities and future agenda of the departments in context of teaching, research, infrastructural development, capacity building and other aspects of alignment.

While addressing the session Dr. Tej Partap, Vice-Chancellor, appreciated the plenty of initiatives taken by the college in all the fronts and thus becoming a role model for all in



the University. He focused upon the reports shared by the head of the departments and said that realistic future plans will pave a way towards brighter tomorrow. He also elaborated upon the New Education Policy and said that the college must come up with a blueprint that will become an example for the entire agriculture university system of the country.

Dr. Tej Partap drew upon the structural reforms to be incorporated under New Education Policy in the country especially in the context of agricultural universities. He welcomed the faculty members of the college to join hands for to emerge as leaders in this aspect by bringing up the initial NEP blueprint.

## Renowned rice breeder and scientist Dr. M.P. Pandey visits Pantnagar

### *Interacted with the faculty members and students of the college*

**Shruti Singh**  
*B.Sc Agriculture, II<sup>nd</sup> Year*



**Rishabh**  
*B.Sc Agriculture, II<sup>nd</sup> Year*



**T**he Department of Genetics and Plant Breeding of College of Agriculture, Pantnagar invited Dr. M.P. Pandey, Director General, Institute of Agriculture Technology, Utthan, Jhalwa, Allahabad for an interactive session. The session was held on September 27, 2021 in which he addressed the faculty members and the students of the college. Dr. Pandey is an illustrious alumnus of the college with several laurels and achievements to his credit. He even served in the college as a Senior Research Officer and contributed in developing new hybrid rice varieties.

While addressing the session, Dr. Pandey focused on the development of rice breeding. He emphasized on the exceptional feats achieved in the field of rice breeding and talked about the future scope of rice breeding. He also spoke at length about hybrid rice varieties and their scope. He further explained about various



scientific approaches which can be efficiently utilised for research and teaching. He also gave insights about how breeding has changed in the present era due to the impact of modern tools. The discussion was followed by question answer session with the faculty and students where they asked numerous questions.

During the visit, Dr. Pandey was very impressed with the new infrastructure developed in the college and gave a positive reflection about improvement in lecture rooms and laboratories. He also suggested a few modifications for further enhancement of laboratories. He individually attended all the faculty members and reminisced about his old days as the Head of Department of Genetics and Plant Breeding.

## Laudable academic performance by college students

*Smrutirekha Pati*  
B.Sc Agriculture, II<sup>nd</sup> Year



*Riya Bisht*  
B.Sc Agriculture, II<sup>nd</sup> Year



practicals and laboratory experiments which is religiously practised by the faculty members and the students of the college. Carrying forward the legacy, the students of College of Agriculture have exhibited commendable performance in the academics this year. A report from Student Section of College of Agriculture has declared the following students as the toppers of their respective batches in the session 2020-21. On behalf of the Editorial Board, we extend our congratulations to all the top CGPA holders. We hope that all students of the college uphold the academic standards of the college with utmost sincerity.

**T**he College of Agriculture, Pantnagar has a cherished legacy of high quality academic standards. This legacy is an outcome of the rigour in classroom teaching, field

### BATCH 2018

Name - Pallavi Bisht  
ID No. - 52958  
CGPA - 8.71

Name- Tanuja Palariya  
ID No. - 53024  
CGPA - 8.66

Name - Km. Suravi Rawat  
ID No. - 53072  
CGPA - 8.62

Name - Km. Nikita Dey  
ID No. - 53079  
CGPA - 8.61

### BATCH 2019

Name - Mallika Tripathi  
ID No. - 54412  
CGPA - 8.704

Name - Meghna Sarkar  
ID No. - 54451  
CGPA - 8.682

Name - Kamakshi Kandpal  
ID No. - 54389  
CGPA - 8.573

### BATCH 2020

Name - Priya Sinha  
ID No. - 56821  
CGPA - 8.795

Name - Vidhi Tiwari  
ID No. - 56434  
CGPA - 8.720

Name - Jayashree Pandey  
ID No. - 55739  
CGPA - 8.702

Name - Aditi Kakkar  
ID No. - 55924  
CGPA - 8.702



## Pantnagar entrance exam held successfully in offline mode

*Himani Panwar*  
*B.Sc Agriculture, II<sup>nd</sup> Year*



*Paras Arya*  
*B.Sc Agriculture, II<sup>nd</sup> Year*



The month of October came with the essence of change. Pantnagar University is back on track again and the colleges are reopening from October. Last year there were lots of hurdles in conduct of entrance examination because of the pandemic. There was no examination for undergraduate programmes and admissions were on the basis of merit list while for postgraduate programmes, examinations were delayed. However, this year the entrance examination for admission to various UG, PG and Ph.D. programmes of the University were scheduled in offline mode on the following dates: Ph.D. entrance examination - 28.08.2021, MCA entrance examination - 28.08.2021, PG entrance examination - 29.08.2021 and UG entrance examination - 19.09.2021. All these examinations were successfully conducted in offline mode.

The results of the examination were declared by the Examination Controller of the University, Dr. Vinod Kumar after approval of Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Tej Partap, on September 26, 2021. Mr. Ayush Bhattacharya with 472 marks out of 600 secured Rank 1 in UG entrance examination while in PG entrance examination, Mr. Nitesh Kumar Bhardwaj, from College of Agriculture secured Rank 1 with 411 marks out of 600. Dr. Kumar also informed that counselling will be done in online mode in the month of October. In a conversation with the Editorial Board, Mr. Nitesh, shared his experience. He said, "My experience while preparing for the exam was quite common like any other student. The things which I feel worked in my favor were that I had retained a fair amount of knowledge which I received during my entire degree program. I focused myself entirely on brushing up my fundamentals of Agriculture. Lastly, I tried to attempt maximum questions from the aptitude section. I tackled the question paper with calmness. It was an amazing experience and I feel thrilled to get an opportunity to be part of this great University once again".

On behalf of the Editorial Board, we wish a great learning experience to all the new students of the university.



## College to avail Mini Auditorium after 5 long years

*Auditorium getting renovated with support of first batch alumnus Dr. B.B. Singh*

**Diksha Pal**  
*B.Sc Agriculture, II<sup>nd</sup> Year*



**Diksha Shahi**  
*B.Sc Agriculture, II<sup>nd</sup> Year*



The Mini Auditorium of College of Agriculture, Pantnagar is a heritage part of the college and is testimonial to the vibrance and dynamism of student life of Pantnagar. It has been a hub of all major student activities and holds immense emotional connect for the college community. However, for renovation work the auditorium was closed since last few years. Finally, the auditorium is now getting renovated with the support of Dr. B.B. Singh, alumnus of first batch of the college and the University. Dr. Singh is currently serving as Visiting Scientist in the Department of Soil and Crop Sciences, University of Texas A&M, USA and has immense love for Pantnagar. With his generous contribution, the renovation work is now in full swing and soon the students and the entire college community will be

able to avail the facilities of Mini Auditorium. Several new infrastructural additions are being introduced in the auditorium including air conditioning, advanced display and sound system, entry area development and new interiors. The renovated auditorium will provide many students their first introduction to performing arts both as audience and performers. The auditorium is being renovated in such a way that it can provide a space that would be highly functional, artistically flexible, easy to use and satisfying for performers and audience. The college community is grateful to Dr. Singh for his noble gesture as it brought back life to a place which is not merely an auditorium but a hub of memories.

## Dean Kashyap talks about importance of field based experiential learning

*Shares insights with the students and faculty members*

**Kirtika Tiwari**  
*B.Sc Agriculture, II<sup>nd</sup> Year*



**Nitin**  
*B.Sc Agriculture, II<sup>nd</sup> Year*



An interactive session was organized on September 25, 2021 in the department of Agricultural Communication in which Dean, College of Agriculture, Dr. S.K. Kashyap addressed the faculty members and the students of the Department of Agricultural Communication on the different extension projects funded by ICAR. While addressing the session, Dr. Kashyap focused on the lead project of Agricultural Extension like National Agricultural Science Fund (NASF) in social sciences, Farmers' First Project (FFP), the structure of the zonal system of the extension in the country, ATARI, KVKs, etc.

Initially, Dr. Kashyap detailed the Farmers First Project run by Pantnagar University in three villages namely Syalikhhet, Jyoli, and Dogda. He talked about the intervention made under Farmers' First Project and the outcomes. He also talked about the NASF project run by the Department of Agricultural Communication and the outcomes of NASF. He also urged the students of the department (M.Sc. and Ph.D.) to regularly visit the field and to participate in the intervention of Farmers' First Project



to visualize the ongoing project and its impacts on the beneficiaries. He emphasized on the importance of honing generic and hands-on skills to emerge as an efficient extension scientist. Citing examples of renowned extension scientists of the country, he said that subjects like Agricultural Extension need lots of field experience. The Head of Department of Agricultural Communication Dr. Neelam Bhardwaj also spoke about the importance of generating significant and meaningful field experiences. The discussion was followed by a question-answer session in which the students and faculty members discussed about their queries. The faculty members of the department including Dr. M.A. Ansari, Dr. V.L.V. Kameshwari, Dr. Amandeep, Dr. Arpita Sharma, and Dr. Kiran Rana participated in the session along with the M.Sc. and Ph.D. students of the department.

## College students emerge victorious in different university and national level events

*Aishna Srivastava*  
B.Sc Agriculture, II<sup>nd</sup> Year



*Ravi Kumar Jha*  
B.Sc Agriculture, II<sup>nd</sup> Year



In a series of National and University level events, students of College of Agriculture, Pantnagar set the marks by performing exceptionally well. Recently, on the occasion of International Literacy Day, University Literary Team, organized a distinctive programme on September 8, 2021. The first session of the programme was organized to promote discussion and deliberate on various facets of online education in which the students' perspective was presented by Ms. Mallika Tripathi, a third year B.Sc. Agriculture student of the college. In the second session of the programme, a debate competition was organized in which Ms. Mallika Tripathi and Ms. Aishna Srivastava, both third year B.Sc. Agriculture student bagged the first and the third prize respectively.

Further, in the Hindi fortnight programme 'Pakshik' organized by Sanskritik Chetna Parishad Professional Society, Pantnagar from September 1, 2021 to September 14, 2021. The event was a curated effort to engage students in order to inculcate in them the pride of the mother tongue, Hindi and feel duty bound

towards it. Four different competitions including the quiz competition "Pragyan", article writing "Aalekh", extempore competition "Pravah" and poetry competition "Kavyotsav" were organized. Students from about 115 universities across the country participated in the event. Mr. Dipankar Pandey and Ms. Abha Bhatt from the college brought glory to the college by securing first position and third position respectively in the national level poetry competition, 'Kavyotsav' organized on September 14, 2021.

With a focus to develop the entrepreneurial capability of students and an objective of creating an idea bank by bringing fresh ideas to the fore and to incubate the best ones, the Innovation and Incubation Centre of IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar organized Ingenious - The Idea Pitching Contest on the theme Providing Urban Amenities to Rural Areas. Students from the college once again proved their excellence and secured top ranks in this national level contest among more than 200 participants from across the country. The team of Mr. Ravi Kumar Jha, Ms. Aishna Shrivastava and Ms. Mallika Tripathi from the college was awarded with second prize for their integrated model titled as Project Black-Green Diamond. Another team of the college comprising Ms. Palak Chaturvedi, and others was awarded third prize for their inventive prototype of rural electrification called R-Hope: Illuminating Rural Household. We hope that many more accomplishments will be achieved by the students in future.

### Student Achievers



**Ms. Mallika Tripathi**  
III<sup>rd</sup> Year, BS.c, Ag



**Ms. Aishna Srivastava**  
III<sup>rd</sup> Year, BS.c, Ag



**Mr. Ravi Kumar Jha**  
III<sup>rd</sup> Year, BS.c, Ag



**Ms. Palak Chaturvedi**  
III<sup>rd</sup> Year, BS.c, Ag



**Mr. Dipankar Pandey**  
II<sup>nd</sup> Year, BS.c, Ag



**Ms. Abha Bhatt**  
II<sup>nd</sup> Year, BS.c, Ag



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### Official Youtube Channel of the College

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPMw8k8\\_iO5zeor\\_LQx6VFg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPMw8k8_iO5zeor_LQx6VFg)