

Freedom Means Not Only Political Independence but Also Freedom from Developmental Challenges: Vice Chancellor

Pantnagar, August 16, 2026. On the occasion of India's 80th Independence Day celebrations, Prof. (Dr.) Shivendra Kumar Kashyap, Vice Chancellor of Govind Ballabh Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar hoisted the flag at Tarai Bhawan and later at Gandhi Park of the University. In his graceful address to faculty, students and staff gathered in a large number to celebrate the independence day, he said that freedom is not limited to political independence; freedom from hunger, malnutrition, inequality, lack of opportunities and rural problems is also a true form of freedom. He said that while soldiers stationed at the nation's borders fight to protect the country, those working in agriculture, education, research and rural development are also engaged in an important struggle for nation-building.

Recalling the glorious history of Pantnagar University, the Vice Chancellor said that the university played an important role in making the country self-sufficient in food through the Green Revolution. He said that Pantnagar is not merely a university, but a symbol of an idea, a culture and the spirit of national service. The university's scientists, teachers and employees have always worked with a missionary spirit and contributed to the agricultural development of the country. He said that the university is undertaking new initiatives in areas such as research, innovation, alternative energy, artificial intelligence, data centres, solar energy and bioenergy. More than 30 research projects have been submitted to various agencies, including the National Research Foundation, and the university is working towards multiplying its resources several times over.

The Vice Chancellor said that the goal of Pantnagar University is not merely to achieve rankings, but to make a meaningful contribution to farmers, society and the nation. He called upon the university community to carry forward the spirit of service, dedication and innovation associated with Pantnagar and play an active role in building a developed India. During the programme, he inaugurated the university's new website and appealed to everyone to keep the website updated. He also appreciated the efforts of Dr. Rajiv Singh, Dr. Govind Verma and Shri Tarun of the College of Technology in developing the website. Subsequently, students with outstanding academic performance from various colleges and research scholars who had published high-impact research papers were also honoured. At the end, the Vice Chancellor extended Independence Day greetings to everyone and called upon them to further strengthen their resolve towards nation-building.

