

called for minimizing post-harvest losses for ensuring better returns to the cultivators. The Governor appreciated the progress achieved in the past years for improving the Seed Replacement Rate particularly for Maize and Potatoes and stressed the continuation of such initiatives for achieving progressively better outcomes. The Governor also expressed satisfaction over the upcoming infrastructure at SKUAST-J's Campus and hoped that the University's next Convocation will be held at its own Auditorium. He wished the Vice Chancellor and all his colleagues success in their efforts of taking this University forward on all fronts at a fast pace and to see that this institution achieves a reputation for high excellence.

Chief Minister Ms Mehbooba Mufti, in her address, exhorted the Farm Scientists to evolve techniques and practices to give boost to the production and productivity in agriculture and allied sectors. She stressed taking research from the labs to the fields for the betterment of agriculture sector and exhorted the students of Farm Universities to be innovative and contribute in making this a lucrative profession for the youngsters. Earlier, Dr. P K Sharma, Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-J presented the Vice Chancellor's Report and highlighted the achievements of the University and its future plans of action. He thanked the Governor for taking keen interest in the growth and development of the University. The proceedings of the Convocation commenced with Dr. Dileep Kachroo, Registrar of the University seeking permission of the Chancellor and declaring the Convocation Open. Present on the occasion were Dr. Nirmal Kumar Singh, Deputy Chief Minister; Haji Anayat Ali, Chairman Legislative Council; Mr. Ghulam Nabi Lone Minister for Agriculture Production; Mr. Naeem Akhtar, Minister for Education; Legislators; Vice Chancellors of various State Universities; members of the Faculty; students; parents of the students and many distinguished guests.

Workshop on Kharif Crops

A One-day State Level Agriculture Officers' Workshop on 'Kharif Crops' was recently organized by CSK Himachal Pradesh Agricultural University, Palampur (Himachal Pradesh). Mr. Sujjan Singh Pathania, Minister of Agriculture, Himachal Pradesh advocated increasing the income of farming community. He was addressing officers from the State Department of Agriculture, University scientists and progressive farmers during the Inaugural Ceremony of Workshop. The Minister said that the cost of production of farm produce has increased substantially but the income of farmers has not increased

reasonably. He suggested that fast and accurate transfer of modern technology, crop diversification, quality control, decrease in post harvest losses, etc. were some of the issues which needed attention of stake holders to help in substantially increasing the income of farmers. He also underlined the need to increase area under pulse crops. Mr. Pathania told that most of the farm operations were performed by women so there was need to reduce drudgery by farm mechanization. He also congratulated the farmers, officers and scientists as the state was regularly decorated with many agricultural prizes at the national level.

Dr. K K Katoch, Vice Chancellor said that Bee keeping should be popularized for pollination and honey. The meeting of state varieties release committee should be held at regular intervals so that the university developed crop varieties may reach farmers in time. The university was developing tomato hybrid seed for the farmers. The Vice Chancellor further said that the proper implementation of various farmer welfare schemes was as important as its truthful adoption. He appreciated the perfect coordination between the university and the state department of agriculture. Dr. Som Raj Kalia, Director, Department of Agriculture, H.P. informed about the arrangements made for farm inputs for ensuing Kharif season. Dr. S S Kanwar, Director of Research elaborated about significant research accomplishments and priorities of the University. Dr. P K Mehta, Director of Extension Education told that 18732 farmers participated in various trainings by the Directorate of Extension and Krishi Vigyan Kendras. University statutory officers, progressive farmers Messers Kulwant Singh, Rajender Thakur, Balbir Singh, Vijay Kumar, Ashwani Sharma, Babu Ram, Tej Singh and Padam Singh also took active part in the discussions and gave suggestions.

National Conference on Creativity, Innovation and Transformation in Libraries

A two-day DRDO Supported National Conference on 'Creativity, Innovation and Transformation in Libraries (SALIS 2016)' was recently organized by the Department of Library, K.S. Rangsam College of Technology, Tiruchengode (Tamil Nadu) and the Society for the Advancement of Library and Information Science (SALIS). Around 200 participants participated in the Conference.

During Inaugural Function, Organizing Secretary, Dr. A M Venkatachalam, Librarian delivered his welcome speech. Vice President, SALIS, Dr. K Elavazhagan, Librarian and Chief Knowledge Officer, Indian Institute

of Management, Trichy explained the structure and chapters of SALIS and the various activities of SALIS in promoting LIS profession by conducting conferences, presenting awards and scholarships and its information services to the members through e-group. Conference Director, Dr. S Swaminathan, Librarian, Sri Ramakrishna Mission Vidyalyaya College of Education, Coimbatore reported the current scenario of library services in the developed as well as developing countries. He also briefed about the number of papers received and accepted through a review process, invited speakers, product presentation and technical sessions of the Conference.

Lion Dr. K S Rangasamy, MJF, Chairman, KSR Institutions delivered the Presidential Address. Dr. M Manivannan, Registrar, Periyar University, Salem (Tamil Nadu) and Chief Guest of the function released the Conference Proceedings and Souvenir and delivered the Inaugural Address. During his address, he proclaimed that libraries have created great personalities like Arignar Anna, great mathematician Ramanujam, etc. and libraries are playing a significant role in continuously updating one's knowledge to the next level. He also stressed the role of libraries for the betterment of society, especially through the learners. Further, the facilities provided by the libraries should be upgraded in our country on par with the western countries and the librarians should take initiatives to promote the services among students and other users of library and propagate about the facilities offered by the libraries so that the libraries may be utilized to the fullest extent. He also quoted that the usage ratio of libraries in our country is a bare minimum when compared to the investment made on it and advised the librarians to create awareness among the users for effective utilization of resources available in libraries. Mr. R Srinivasan, Secretary, KSR Institutions and Dr. K Thyagarajah, Principal, KSRCT, Tiruchengode offered their felicitation. Dr. K Thyagarajah felicitated the gathering and stated that the community should cheerfully utilize the libraries for the upliftment of society and the Librarians. SALIS 2015 awards were presented to the professionals who have excelled in the LIS profession. Dr. M Mandhirasalam, General Secretary, SALIS and Librarian, Coimbatore Institute of Technology, Coimbatore announced the Award winners for the year 2015. Mr. K Karunai Raghavan, Vice President, SALIS and Librarian National Engineering College, Kovilpatti proposed the Vote of Thanks.

The Technical Session on 'Creativity and Innovation in Higher Education and Library Services' was chaired by Dr. S Dhanavandan, Assistant Librarian, Gandhigram

Rural University, Dindigul. Mr. S Manikandan, ACL, Chennai, Dr. G Amudha, Librarian, VHNSN College, Virudhu Nagar and Mr. M Kanagaraj, Librarian, KIOT, Salem acted as the Rapporteurs. About seven papers were presented in this session followed by Industrial Presentation on 'Springer E-Books' by ARM Information Services, Pune. The Session on 'Transforming Library from Physical Space to Active Learning Space' was chaired by Mr. S Elango, Librarian, SRMV MCPE, Coimbatore. Ms K S Kalyani, PUCAS, Papiratipatti and Mr. T Muruganantham, Amrita University, Coimbatore acted as the Rapporteurs. Dr. M Tamilchezhvan, Deputy Librarian, Gandhigram Rural University, Dindigul delivered the invited talk on 'Transforming Library from Physical Space to Active Learning Space'. About eight papers were presented in this Session.

Next Session on 'Innovative User Centric and Research Support Services' was chaired Dr. K S Sivakumaren, Assistant University Librarian, Anna University MIT Campus, Chennai. Mr. R Arikrishnan, ACL, Chennai and Mr. A Velayutham, SRMV MCPE, Coimbatore acted as the Rapporteurs. Dr. M Surulinathi, Assistant Professor, DLIS, Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli delivered the invited talk on 'Innovative User Centric and Research Support Services' followed by Industrial Presentations on 'RFID' by Rapid Radio Solutions Pvt. Ltd., Ahmedabad. Around six papers were presented in this session.

The Session on 'Content Management System (CMS) and e-Learning' was chaired by Mr. S Radhakrishnan, Technical Officer, NPOL, Ernakulam, Kerala. Dr. N Murugesan, Librarian, ACET, Tirupur, Ms G Meenambika, Librarian, Patrician College, Chennai and Mr. R Venkatram, Library Assistant, Alagappa University, Karaikudi acted as the Rapporteurs. Dr. B Jeyaprakash Assistant Professor, DLIS, Bharathidasan University' Tiruchirappalli delivered the invited talk on 'Content Management System (CMS) and e-Learning'. About eight papers were presented in this session.

Dr. S Thanuskodi, Professor and Head DLIS, Alagappa University, Kariakudi chaired the Session on 'Innovative Outreach Programmes for Promoting Library Services'. Ms K Indumathi, Librarian, Anna Adarsh College, Chennai and Mr. K Ramakrishnan, Librarian, JKKN College, K Palayam acted as the Rapporteurs. Nearly ten papers were presented in this session. The Session on 'Innovative Library Services Using Social Networking Tools' was chaired by Dr. S Srinivasa Raghavan, Professor and Head, DLIS, Bharathidasan University, Trichy. Dr. A P Shanmugam, Librarian, TUCAS, Viluppuram, Mr. V Radhakrishnan,

Librarian, SPi Global, Chennai and Mr. K Rajaram, Librarian, KSRIT, Tiruchengode acted as the Rapporteurs. Dr. K Mahalakshmi, Assistant University Librarian, Avinashilingam University, Coimbatore delivered the invited talk on 'Innovative Library Services Using Social Networking Tools'. About twelve papers were presented in this session. Mr. S Ravi, Librarian, K.S.R. Polytechnic College, Tiruchengode chaired the Session on 'Collaboration among Libraries'. Dr. S Sridhar, Librarian, TSM, Madurai, Dr. K Murugan, Librarian, Anna University College, Tuticorin and Mr. V Ashok Kumar, SVHEC, Gobi acted as the Rapporteurs. Dr. Jesudas Manalan, Librarian, Bishop Heber College, Tiruchirappalli delivered the invited talk on 'Collaboration among Libraries' followed by Industrial Presentations on 'RFID' by 2 CQR India, Chennai. About four papers were presented in this Session. Dr. C Murugan, Professor and Head, DLIS, Periyar University, Salem chaired the Session on 'Innovative Best Practices in Libraries'. Mr. G Saravanan, Librarian, French Institute, Puducherry, Mr. G Karthikeyan, Librarian, BIT, Anna University, Trichy and Ms. S Subha, Librarian, Sri Vasavi College, Chithode acted as the Rapporteurs. Dr. A Thirunavukkarasu Librarian, Alagappa University, Karaikudi delivered the invited talk on 'Innovative Best Practices in Libraries'. Around five papers were presented in this Session.

A Public/Panel discussion was held on the theme on 'Creativity, Innovation and Transformation in Libraries'. Dr. S Suriyanarayanan, Advisor, SALIS, Dr. A Sokkalingam, Librarian, SRMV Polytechnic, Coimbatore, Dr S Srinivasa Raghavan, Professor and Head, DLIS, Bharathidasan University, Trichy, Dr. M Tamizhchelvan, Deputy Librarian, The Gandhigram Rural Institute University, Dindigul, Ms M Mahalakshmi, Librarian, Stella Mary's College, Chennai and Ms K S Kalyani, Librarian, PUCAS, Pappiretipatti acted as panel members. Dr. K Elavazhagan, Librarian

and Chief Knowledge Officer, IIM Trichy acted as the Moderator for the discussion. Panelists answered the questions of the participants and discussed the various issues related to the panel theme.

During the Valedictory Function of the Conference, Prof. T Stephen, Rapporteur General and Professor and Head, DLIS, Vellalar College for Women, Erode presented the report of the proceedings of the Conference followed by feedback from the participants. Dr P Ponmurugan, Professor and Head, Department of Bio-Technology, KSRCT delivered the Presidential Address. Dr. S Suriyanarayanan, Advisor, SALIS delivered the Valedictory Address. The special address was delivered by Dr. M Ilangkumaran Professor and Head, Department of Mechatronics, KSRCT. Dr. M Mandhirasalam, General Secretary, SALIS and Librarian, Coimbatore Institute of Technology, Coimbatore proposed the Vote of Thanks.

National Conference on Emerging Trends in Innovations and Sustainable Business Practices

A One-day National Conference on 'Emerging Trends in Innovations and Sustainable Business Practices' is being organized by School of Management Studies on September 08, 2016. The objective of the Conference is to make all the participants and our students understand how advancing management practices have accelerated pace of change in the field of the product and services, Finance, HR, advertising, product design or packaging, retail or distribution, sales promotion or pricing. National Conference includes panel discussion among eminent individuals from industry and academia along with paper presentation sessions, invited guest talks, key note addresses and plenary/ valedictory discussions. For further details, contact Organising Secretary of the Conference, Dr Poonam Bassi on E-mail: ncimssg@baddiuniv.ac.in. □

AIU NEWS

Prof. (Dr.) Chandrakant Kokate —The New Vice President of AIU

Prof. Dr. Chandrakant Kokate, Vice Chancellor, KLE University, Belgavi has taken over as the Vice President of the Association of Indian Universities for the session 2016-17. An eminent and highly acclaimed Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Prof Kokate held very important positions in Government of India

prior to being the Vice Chancellor of KLE University. He served as Vice Chancellor, Kakatiya University, Warangal; Vice Chancellor (FAC), Nagarjuna University, Guntur; President, Pharmacy Council of India; President, 50th Indian Pharmaceutical Congress along with Federation of Asian Pharmaceutical Association (FAPA); National President, Indian Pharmaceutical Association; President, Indian Society of Pharmacognosy.