



K.R. MANGALAM UNIVERSITY
THE COMPLETE WORLD OF EDUCATION



SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES



NEWSLETTER JANUARY - MARCH 2026



K.R. MANGALAM UNIVERSITY
THE COMPLETE WORLD OF EDUCATION
Welcomes Students



K.R. MANGALAM UNIVERSITY

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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Dear Readers,

I am pleased to present the January-March 2026 edition of the School of Agricultural Sciences Newsletter. This issue captures the spirit of progress, innovation, and academic engagement that continues to define our institution.

During this quarter, our faculty and students have shown commendable commitment and enthusiasm in advancing learning, research, and outreach activities. This edition brings together a range of informative articles focusing on contemporary developments in agriculture, including evolving agri-technologies, sustainable practices, and innovative farming approaches.

We are happy to share key accomplishments such as publications in esteemed journals, organization of capacity-building programmes, and various academic engagements that have enriched student learning. Exposure through field visits, hands-on training, and skill development initiatives has further strengthened practical understanding among our learners.

We hope this newsletter serves as a meaningful record of our efforts while also encouraging knowledge sharing and collaboration within our academic community. We trust you will find this edition insightful and engaging.

Thank you for your continued encouragement and support. We look forward to sharing more achievements and initiatives in the editions to come.

Warm Regards

DR. ANJALI TOMAR

EDITOR - IN - CHIEF & ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES
K.R. MANGALAM UNIVERSITY



WORDS FROM LEADERSHIP

Dear Readers,

It gives me great pleasure to present this edition of the School of Agricultural Sciences Newsletter for the January-March 2026 quarter. This issue highlights our continued pursuit of academic excellence, innovation, and a strong commitment to quality education.

During this period, the school has witnessed significant progress, with enthusiastic involvement of both faculty and students in academic, research, and extension activities. Contributions to reputed journals and engagement in emerging domains of agriculture reflect our ongoing efforts to expand knowledge and address contemporary challenges.

It is encouraging to observe the increasing emphasis on modern agricultural technologies, interdisciplinary approaches, and skill-oriented learning initiatives. These efforts not only enrich our academic ecosystem but also equip our students with the competencies required to thrive in the rapidly evolving agricultural sector.

I extend my congratulations to all contributors for their dedicated efforts and achievements. Their commitment continues to strengthen the academic environment and enhance the reputation of the institution.

Let us move forward with renewed enthusiasm, fostering innovation, collaboration, and a sustained commitment to learning and excellence.

PROF. VARUNA TYAGI

DEAN (ACADEMIC AFFAIRS)
K.R. MANGALAM UNIVERSITY



MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

Dear Readers,

It is a matter of great pride and pleasure to present the January-March 2026 edition of the School of Agricultural Sciences Newsletter. This edition reflects the continued progress, achievements, and active engagement of our faculty members, students, and staff during the first quarter of the year.

During this period, the School of Agricultural Sciences continued to move forward with strong commitment toward academic excellence, research, innovation, and outreach. The activities highlighted in this edition, including academic programs, student achievements, research contributions, workshops, expert interactions, field visits, and extension activities, reflect our shared dedication to holistic learning and professional development.

I am pleased to see the enthusiasm and sincere efforts of our faculty and students in creating a vibrant academic environment. Their participation in various academic and co-curricular activities strengthens our mission of preparing skilled, responsible, and future-ready professionals in the field of agriculture.

I extend my sincere appreciation to all faculty members, students, and staff for their dedication, teamwork, and valuable contributions. Their continuous efforts are important in advancing agricultural education, research, and sustainable development.

I hope this newsletter will inspire our readers and further strengthen our collective commitment to excellence, innovation, and service to society.

Warm Regards

**PROF. (DR.)
JOGINDER
SINGH YADAV**

DEAN, SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES
K.R. MANGALAM UNIVERSITY



FROM THE DESK OF IQAC COORDINATOR

Dear Readers,

I am pleased to share this message for the January-March 2026 edition of the School of Agricultural Sciences Newsletter. This publication reflects the school's ongoing pursuit of academic distinction, innovation, and meaningful community engagement. I extend my sincere appreciation to the editorial team for thoughtfully compiling and presenting the key highlights and achievements of this quarter.

At the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), we continue to emphasize a culture of continuous improvement, accountability, and quality enhancement across the university. It is encouraging to note that the School of Agricultural Sciences is actively upholding these values through its vibrant academic initiatives, research endeavors, and capacity-building programmes, particularly in emerging areas such as agri-technology and sustainable farming practices.

The enthusiastic involvement of both students and faculty in research, experiential learning, scholarly publications, and academic activities—along with initiatives like educational visits and innovation-led accomplishments, reflects the school's commitment to developing competent and future-ready agricultural professionals. This edition not only documents the activities of the past quarter but also highlights the progressive outlook and innovative spirit of the institution.

Let us continue to move ahead with renewed focus, creativity, and a strong commitment to excellence and quality in all our endeavors.

Warm regards

DR. SHIKHA DUTT SHARMA

EDITOR & IQAC COORDINATOR
K.R. MANGALAM UNIVERSITY



SCHOOL VISION AND MISSION

ABOUT THE SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES

School of Agricultural Sciences at K. R. Mangalam University is fully equipped with the facilities of laboratories and agriculture farms to carry out the Teaching, Practical and Research work. All the faculty members are well qualified (Ph.D. in their respective fields) and well experienced. The faculty remains in constant touch with various experts in the relevant fields and is willing to experiment with latest ideas in teaching and research.

School of Agricultural Sciences imparts students technical knowledge, enhances their practical skill and ability, motivating them to think creatively, helping them to act independently and take decisions accordingly in all their technical pursuits and other endeavours. It strives to empower its students and faculty members to contribute to the development of society and Nation.

SCHOOL VISION

To be an internationally recognized Agri-institute for agriculture education, research and innovation, and Agri-entrepreneurship.

SCHOOL MISSION

- Interdisciplinary approach, innovative pedagogy, stimulating research to foster Agri-based employability and entrepreneurship.
- Integrate global needs and expectations through collaborative programs with premier universities, research centers, industries, and professional bodies within India and abroad for global exposure & real-life work experience.
- Practicing cutting-edge-technologies, tools, techniques, practices, and processes in the field of agriculture
- Developing leadership, ethical values, and sensitivity to the environment.

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

EXPERTS INVITED TO DELIVER SESSION ON MARKET-LED EXTENSION AND COMMUNICATION AT NUH

Prof. (Dr.) J. S. Yadav, Dean, School of Agricultural Sciences (SOAS), and Dr. Anjali Tomar, Assistant Professor, School of Agricultural Sciences (SOAS), were invited as experts to deliver a session on

“Market-Led Extension and Communication” for DAESI (Diploma in Agricultural Extension Services for Input Dealers) students at Nuh on 25th January 2026. The programme was organized by HAMETI (Haryana Agricultural Management & Extension Training Institute), Jind, under the coordination of MANAGE (National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management), Hyderabad.



CERTIFICATE OF REVIEWING

Dr. Agnibha Sinha, Assistant Professor, SOAS, received a Certificate of Reviewing from the Journal of Environmental Chemical Engineering, published by Elsevier, in recognition of his contribution as a reviewer. The certificate was awarded for completing one review in January 2026.

This recognition reflects his academic contribution to the peer-review process and his support in maintaining the quality of scientific publications. The School congratulates Dr. Agnibha Sinha on this achievement and appreciates his contribution to research and scholarly activities.



INVITATION AS EXTERNAL EXAMINER AT SKUAST-KASHMIR

Dr. Anjali Tomar, Assistant Professor, SOAS, K.R. Mangalam University, Gurugram, Haryana, was invited as an External Examiner for the viva-voce examination of Mr. Chandra Kumar Chandra, an M.Sc. student of Agricultural Extension and Communication at Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir (SKUAST-K).

The viva-voce examination was conducted on 9th February 2026.



CERTIFICATE OF REVIEWING FROM SPRINGER NATURE

Dr. Agnibha Sinha, Assistant Professor, SOAS, received a Reviewer Certificate from Springer Nature in recognition of his contribution as a reviewer for Scientific Reports. The certificate was awarded for reviewing one manuscript in 2026 and was issued on 19th February 2026.

This recognition highlights his valuable contribution to the academic peer-review process and his role in supporting the quality and credibility of scientific research publications. The School congratulates Dr. Agnibha Sinha on this achievement and appreciates his contribution to research and scholarly service.

This invitation reflects Dr. Tomar's academic expertise and professional contribution in the field of Agricultural Extension and Communication. As an external expert, her role was to evaluate the student's research work, assess the quality of the thesis presentation, and examine the student's understanding of the research topic, methodology, findings, and practical relevance.

K.R. Mangalam University congratulates Dr. Anjali Tomar on being invited as an External Expert for this important academic assignment and appreciates her continued contribution to higher education, research evaluation, and academic excellence.



INVITED AS JUDGE AT SPANDAN

Prof. (Dr.) J.S. Yadav, Dean, SOAS, was invited as a judge for the literary contests organized during SPANDAN at the Central University of Haryana, Mahendergarh, on 27th February 2026.



His role included evaluating the participants on the basis of their content, creativity, expression, confidence, presentation skills, and overall performance. Literary contests provide a valuable platform for students to express their ideas, improve communication skills, and develop confidence.

Dr. Yadav's participation as a judge reflects his academic experience and contribution to co-curricular and student development activities. The school/department congratulates Dr. J.S. Yadav on this recognition and appreciates his valuable contribution to the event.

PARTICIPATION IN FACULTY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME



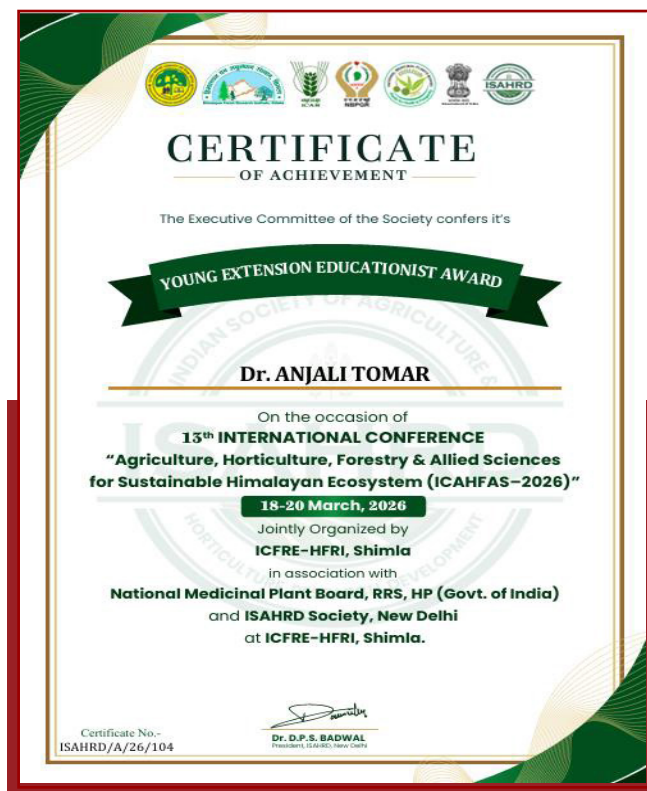
Dr. Anjali Tomar, Assistant Professor, K.R. Mangalam University, participated in a five-day online Faculty Development Programme on "Quality-Driven Curriculum Design, Development and Pedagogical Innovation for Future-Ready Higher Education."

The programme was organized by AIU-AADC and IQAC, K.R. Mangalam University, in collaboration with the Association of Indian

Universities (AIU) from 30 March to 03 April 2026. Dr. Tomar's participation reflects her commitment to continuous professional development, academic excellence, and the adoption of modern teaching practices for effective student learning.

HONoured WITH YOUNG EXTENSION EDUCATIONIST AWARD

Dr. Anjali Tomar, Assistant Professor, SOAS, honoured with the Young Extension Educationist Award during the 13th International Conference on “Agriculture, Horticulture, Forestry & Allied Sciences for Sustainable Himalayan Ecosystem (ICAHFAS-2026)”, held from 18-20 March 2026 at ICFRE-HFRI, Shimla. The conference was jointly organized by ICFRE-HFRI, Shimla, in association with the National Medicinal Plant Board, RRS, HP (Govt. of India) and ISAHRD Society, New Delhi. This recognition highlights Dr. Tomar’s valuable contributions to agricultural extension education, farmer outreach, and the promotion of sustainable agricultural practices. The School of Agricultural Sciences congratulates Dr. Tomar on this achievement and wishes her continued success in her academic and extension activities.



APPRECIATION AWARD FROM ARAVALI KISAN CLUB KALYAN SAMITI



Prof. (Dr.) J. S. Yadav, Dean, SOAS, was honored with an Appreciation Award by the Aravali Kisan Kalyan Club on 14th February 2026 for his valuable work and contribution to the farming community.

The award recognizes Dr. Yadav's continued efforts in promoting farmer welfare, agricultural awareness, and sustainable farming practices. Through his guidance and active involvement, he has been working closely with farmers to strengthen knowledge sharing, encourage improved agricultural practices, and support community-based agricultural development.

The recognition by Aravali Kisan Kalyan Club highlights the strong connection between the School of Agricultural Sciences and farming communities. It also reflects the commitment of SOAS toward farmer outreach, practical training, and promoting sustainable agriculture at the grassroots level. The School of Agricultural Sciences congratulates Prof. (Dr.) J.S. Yadav on this achievement and appreciates his dedicated service to farmers.

STUDENTS' ACHIEVEMENTS

STUDENTS PARTICIPATED IN PRAKRITI PUZZLE HUNT SOLVE THE RIDDLE, SEEK THE SEEDS

Students of School of Agricultural Sciences, K.R. Mangalam University, received Certificate of Appreciation for their valuable contribution, commitment, and support during the event activities, including Prakriti Puzzle, Hunt Solve the Riddle, and Seek the Seeds. The certificate was awarded on 17th March 2026 by K.R. Mangalam University, recognizing their active participation, dedication, and efforts in supporting student engagement and co-curricular activities.



MS. ANISHA
B.SC. (HONS.) AGRICULTURE
1ST YEAR



MR. SUBHAM
B.SC. (HONS.) AGRICULTURE
1ST YEAR



STUDENTS PARTICIPATED IN EL-INSECTO: INSECT PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

Students from K.R. Mangalam University brought pride to the School of Agricultural Sciences by securing positions in El-Insecto: Insect Photography Inter-University Competition, organized by the School of Agricultural Sciences, K.R. Mangalam University, Gurugram, Haryana, on 17 February 2026. Neetu secured the first position, while Albert secured the second position and Hilminthang secured the third position in the competition. Their achievement reflects their creativity, observation skills, and interest in agricultural sciences and insect biodiversity.

The School of Agricultural Sciences congratulates all the winners for their excellent performance and appreciates their active participation in this inter-university competition.



MS. NEETU SHARMA
B.SC. (HONS.) AGRICULTURE
IIND YEAR



MR. ALBERT
B.SC. (HONS.) AGRICULTURE
IIIRD YEAR





MR. HILMINTHANG
B.SC.(HONS.) AGRICULTURE
IIND YEAR



INITIATIVES BY SCHOOL

STUDENT ENTREPRENEURSHIP MODEL OF “QUENCH AND CRUNCH”



Students of School of Agricultural Sciences, K.R. Mangalam University, in collaboration with the Department of Student Welfare (DSW), took an initiative to promote student entrepreneurship by organizing a student-led food stall named “Quench and Crunch” on 18th March 2026.

As part of this initiative, students actively planned and managed the stall, offering a variety of food items and beverages at

reasonable prices, including cookies, smoothies, and other refreshments. A key attraction of the stall was the creative BYOC (Bring Your Own Cup) concept, which encouraged responsible and eco-friendly practices among students.

The activity provided practical exposure to entrepreneurship, teamwork, budgeting, marketing, customer handling, and event management. It also encouraged students to apply their creativity and business ideas in a real-time setting. The initiative reflected the School's commitment to promoting experiential learning, innovation, and skill development among students.

KRISHI VIKAS

NATURAL FARMING: A PATHWAY TO SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AND HEALTHY LIVING

Agriculture today stands at a critical crossroads. The Green Revolution of the 1960s played a historic role in ensuring food security for millions of people. However, over time, intensive agriculture also brought several unintended challenges, including soil degradation, declining biodiversity, water contamination, and increased dependence on chemical inputs. In this context, the promotion of natural farming is not merely an alternative approach; it is a necessity for ensuring long-term sustainability, ecological balance, and human health.

Natural farming is a holistic approach that focuses on working in harmony with nature. It discourages the use of synthetic fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides and promotes the use of locally available resources such as cow dung, cow urine, plant residues, and beneficial microbial cultures. These practices help reduce the cost of cultivation, improve farm profitability, and restore the natural fertility of the soil.

Soil is not just a medium for plant growth; it is a living ecosystem. It contains millions of microorganisms that play an essential role in nutrient cycling, soil structure formation, and plant health. Excessive use of chemical inputs over the years has disturbed this delicate biological balance, resulting in reduced soil fertility and increased susceptibility to pests and diseases. Natural farming practices help rebuild soil organic matter, improve water-holding capacity, enhance soil structure, and promote beneficial microbial activity. As a result, the soil becomes healthier, more resilient, and more productive over time.

Another important benefit of natural farming is the production of safe, chemical-free, and nutritious food. With growing awareness about health and nutrition, consumers are increasingly looking for food that is free from harmful chemical residues. Naturally grown produce can help address this concern and contribute to better public health. Thus, natural farming connects agricultural sustainability with human well-being.

Environmental sustainability is at the core of natural farming. By reducing or eliminating the use of synthetic chemicals, this approach helps minimize soil and water pollution, conserve biodiversity,



PROF. (DR.) J. S. YADAV
DEAN, SOAS

and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. It also supports climate resilience by improving soil carbon storage and reducing farmers' dependence on costly external inputs. In the present era of climate uncertainty, natural farming offers a practical and regenerative pathway for the future of agriculture. At the School of Agricultural Sciences, K.R. Mangalam University, Sohna, we recognize the importance of promoting natural farming through education, research, and extension activities. Our efforts are focused on training students and farmers, developing region-specific natural farming models, and encouraging innovation in sustainable agricultural practices. Strong collaboration with farming communities, institutions, and stakeholders is essential for wider adoption and meaningful impact.

As part of this commitment, the School of Agricultural Sciences has already conducted three 3-day training programmes on the promotion of natural farming in southern Haryana. These programmes were organized in collaboration with and sponsored by HAMETI, Jind, during February and March 2026, and successfully trained 175 progressive farmers. The training sessions aimed to create awareness, build practical skills, and encourage farmers to adopt natural farming practices suitable for local conditions.

However, the transition from conventional farming to natural farming requires awareness, patience, and continuous support. Farmers need proper training, technical guidance, and initial handholding during the adoption phase. In addition, policy support, market linkages, and certification systems can play an important role in motivating farmers and ensuring better returns for naturally grown produce.

In conclusion, natural farming represents a promising pathway for restoring soil health, producing safe food, protecting the environment, and strengthening farmer livelihoods. It aligns with the broader goals of sustainability, resilience, and well-being. As educators, researchers, extension professionals, and responsible citizens, it is our collective responsibility to promote and advance such practices for the benefit of present and future generations.

Let us work together to nurture the soil that sustains us and build a healthier planet and a more secure future for all.

EVENTS

THREE-DAY TRAINING PROGRAMME ON NATURAL FARMING IN COLLABORATION WITH HAMETI, JIND



The School of Agricultural Sciences (SOAS), K.R. Mangalam University, in collaboration with HAMETI, Jind, organized a three-day Training Programme on Natural Farming from 28-30 January 2026. The programme was conducted under the guidance of Dr. J.S. Yadav, Dean, SOAS, and was organized by Dr. Anjali Tomar and Dr. Ambika Bhandari, Assistant Professors, SOAS.

The programme aimed to create awareness among farmers and students about low-cost, eco-friendly, and sustainable farming practices. Farmers from different villages of Gurugram district and students of SOAS actively participated in the training sessions. The programme included expert lectures, interactive discussions, demonstrations, and a field visit to provide both theoretical and practical exposure to natural farming.



Dr. Anjali Tomar played a key role in organizing and coordinating the programme. She also delivered a lecture on “Connecting Consumers of Organic Produce and Natural Farming Community,” where she highlighted the importance of farmer-consumer linkages, direct marketing, and creating awareness about natural and organic produce. During the three-day programme, experts discussed important topics such as soil health, integrated

farming systems, crop disease management, insect pest management, intercropping, and preparation of natural inputs. On the final day, participants visited Raiseena village, Gurugram, where they observed natural farming practices and learned about the preparation and use of inputs such as Jeevamrit, Ghanjeevamrit, Agniashtra, Gokripamrit, and other organic formulations.

The training programme successfully strengthened awareness about chemical-free farming, sustainable agriculture, and the role of natural inputs in improving soil health and reducing cultivation costs. The School of Agricultural Sciences appreciates the efforts of Dr. J.S. Yadav for his valuable contribution as convener and resource person, and congratulates the team for successfully conducting this farmer-oriented training programme

EXPOSURE VISIT TO KVK SIKOHPUR

The School of Agricultural Sciences (SOAS), K.R. Mangalam University, organized an educational exposure visit to Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Sikohpur on 5th February 2026 for the students of B.Sc. (Hons.) Agriculture. The visit was convened by Dr. J.S. Yadav, Dean, SOAS, and coordinated by Dr. Anjali Tomar, Dr. Ambika Bhandari, and Dr. Agnibha Sinha, Assistant Professors, SOAS. A total of 23 students participated in the visit, which aimed to provide practical exposure to the functioning of KVKs, agricultural extension activities, farmer training, technology transfer, and field-based learning.

During the visit, students interacted with Dr. Bharat Singh, Scientist (Plant Protection), KVK Sikohpur, who delivered an informative session on plant protection practices, integrated pest management, safe pesticide use, and eco-friendly pest control methods. Students also attended an ongoing programme on "Satat Krishi Hetu Prakratik Kheti", where they learned about natural farming, organic inputs, soil health management, and sustainable agricultural practices.



The students visited different demonstration units at KVK Sikohpur, including crop fields, horticultural units, vermicomposting units, and integrated farming system models. The exposure helped them connect classroom learning with real-field applications and understand the role of KVKs in supporting farmers and rural development. The visit proved to be an enriching learning experience and reflected the School's commitment to experiential learning, practical skill development, and sustainable agricultural education.



YOUTH COOPERATION SUMMIT



The School of Agricultural Sciences (SOAS), K.R. Mangalam University, Gurugram, in collaboration with Sahakar Bharati Gurugram and the Youth Red Cross Committee, organized the Youth Cooperation Summit on 25th February 2026. The summit aimed to sensitize students about the importance of cooperatives in nation-building, youth empowerment, agriculture, and rural development.

The programme began with a welcome address by Prof. (Dr.) J. S. Yadav, Dean, SOAS, who highlighted the role of cooperative institutions in strengthening the agricultural and rural economy. Ms. Anshika Kathuria delivered a motivational lecture encouraging students to develop leadership qualities and social responsibility.



Technical sessions were delivered by Prof. (Dr.) Sandeep Saxena, Dr. Rajesh Kharab, and Mr. Rajpal Sharma, who discussed the evolution, impact, governance, and practical functioning of cooperatives. They also emphasized the role of youth in promoting cooperative models for self-reliance, entrepreneurship, and community development.

The summit was coordinated and concluded by Dr. Anjali Tomar, Assistant Professor, SOAS. The event helped students gain a better understanding of the role of cooperatives in sustainable agricultural and socio-economic development.

LEARNING BEYOND CLASSROOMS: A VISIT TO KISAN MELA, IARI, NEW DELHI



The School of Agricultural Sciences (SOAS), organized an educational visit to the Kisan Mela at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), New Delhi, on 27th February 2026 for the students and faculty members of SOAS. The visit was convened by Dr. J.S. Yadav, Dean, SOAS, and coordinated by Dr. Anjali Tomar, Dr. Ambika Bhandari, and Dr. Jay Nath Patel, Assistant Professors, SOAS.

The visit aimed to provide students with practical exposure to the latest advancements in agricultural research, technologies, innovations, and extension systems. During the Kisan Mela, students explored various exhibition stalls and canopies set up by different Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) from across India. These stalls showcased region-specific farming practices, improved crop varieties, modern agricultural machinery, precision farming tools, organic inputs, protected cultivation methods, post-harvest technologies, and sustainable farming models.

Students also interacted with scientists, researchers, and extension professionals, which helped them understand the connection between agricultural research and field-level application.

The visit was an enriching experience for the students, as it helped them relate theoretical knowledge with real-world agricultural innovations. It



also encouraged awareness about sustainable agriculture, climate-resilient farming, responsible resource use, and entrepreneurship in agriculture. The School appreciates the efforts of Dr. Anjali Tomar and the faculty organizers for successfully coordinating this meaningful experiential learning activity.

TRAINING PROGRAMME ON PROFESSIONAL ETHICS FOR TEACHERS AND STAFF



The School of Agricultural Sciences (SOAS), K.R. Mangalam University, organized a Training Programme on Professional Ethics for Teachers and Staff on 28th February 2026. The programme was convened by Prof.(Dr.) J.S. Yadav, Dean, SOAS, and organized by Dr. Anjali Tomar and Dr. Ambika Bhandari, Assistant Professors, SOAS. The session was attended by faculty and staff members of the School.

The programme began with an introductory address by Dr. Anjali Tomar, who welcomed the participants and highlighted the importance of professional ethics in academic institutions. She emphasized that integrity, accountability, respect, and ethical conduct are essential for maintaining a positive and responsible educational environment.

Prof. (Dr.) J.S. Yadav, Dean, SOAS, served as the resource person for the session and delivered an informative lecture on professional ethics. He discussed the responsibilities of teachers and staff, ethical decision-making, transparency, respectful communication, and the role of educators as role models for students.'

The session also included an interactive discussion where participants shared their views and discussed real-life ethical situations in academic and administrative work. The programme helped strengthen awareness about professional conduct, value-based education, and the importance of creating an inclusive and respectful institutional culture.

The training concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Ambika Bhandari, who expressed gratitude to the resource person and participants for their active involvement. The programme reflected SOAS's commitment to promoting professionalism, ethical awareness, and quality education among its faculty and staff.



PROJECT ON EFFICIENT MANAGEMENT OF LIVESTOCK FARM



The students of B.Sc. (Hons.) Agriculture, 2nd Semester, School of Agricultural Sciences, K.R. Mangalam University, carried out a project on “Efficient Management on Livestock Farm” at Aravali Dairy and Agro Pvt. Ltd. from 28 January to 27 February 2026. The project was organized in collaboration with Aravali Dairy and Agro Pvt. Ltd.

The project aimed to provide students with practical exposure to modern livestock farm management practices. During the visit, Mr. Krishan Mohan, founder of the firm, explained the complete setup and functioning of the agro-farm in detail. Students observed a well-managed gaushala with more than 500 cows, including breeds such as Sahiwal, Tharparkar. They also learned about advanced technologies used for efficient livestock management.

As part of the project, students gained hands-on knowledge of modern feed production techniques, including hydroponic fodder production, millet crushing for fodder, use of a commercial dehydrator, advanced milking techniques, milk processing technologies, and cold press oil extraction using bulls. The activity helped students understand the integration of technology with livestock farming and strengthened their practical knowledge related to the course.

The project was conducted under the guidance of Prof. (Dr.) J.S. Yadav, Dean, SOAS, Dr. Rabiya Basri, and Dr. Agnibha Sinha. It proved to be a valuable learning experience, encouraging students to connect classroom concepts with real livestock farm operations.



AGRICULTURE AND COMMUNITY CONNECT

PROMOTING NATURAL FARMING AND BUILDING STRONGER FARMER-CONSUMER LINKAGES IN SOUTHERN HARYANA



The School of Agricultural Sciences, K.R. Mangalam University, in collaboration with HAMETI, Jind, is actively promoting natural farming among farmers of southern Haryana through a series of farmer training programmes and community engagement initiatives. These efforts aim to create awareness, build practical skills, and support farmers in adopting sustainable, low-cost, and chemical-free farming practices.

From January to February 2026, the School of Agricultural Sciences organized three training programmes focused on the promotion of natural farming. Farmers from different districts of southern Haryana, including Rewari, Gurugram, Mahendragarh, Nuh, Jhajjar, and Bhiwani, participated in these programmes. Till now, 175 farmers have been trained through these initiatives. The training programmes focused on the basic principles and practical methods of natural farming, including the use of locally available resources, preparation of natural inputs, improvement of soil health, reduction of chemical dependency, and production of safe and healthy food. Farmers were also guided on how natural farming can help reduce input costs, improve soil biological activity, and support long-term farm sustainability.

A key objective of these programmes is not only to train farmers but also to connect them with the wider community. Through the Community Connect initiative, taken by Dr. J. S. Yadav, Dean, School of Agricultural Science, continuously working to build linkages between natural farming practitioners, consumers, local community members, and other stakeholders. This approach helps farmers develop better networks for marketing and selling their naturally grown produce, while also helping community members access safer, healthier, and chemical-free food.

By creating a platform for interaction between farmers and consumers, the initiative promotes mutual understanding and trust. Farmers get an opportunity to share their farming practices, challenges, and produce directly with the community, while consumers can get locally grown organic food and vegetable and thus promoting sustainable agriculture. Such direct connections can also help farmers receive better recognition and value for their produce.

The collaboration with HAMETI, Jind has further strengthened the outreach and impact of these programmes. With institutional support, technical guidance, and active participation of farmers, the initiative is encouraging a gradual shift toward natural farming in the region. The focus remains on practical learning, farmer empowerment, and creating a supportive ecosystem for sustainable agriculture.



Dr Subash Chander, Natural Farming expert from HAMETI interacting with the Participants

The School of Agricultural Sciences remains committed to continuing these efforts in southern Haryana by organizing more training programmes, field-level demonstrations, awareness activities, and community interactions. Through these initiatives, the School aims to support farmers in adopting natural farming practices and help build a healthier connection between agriculture, food, environment, and society.

This initiative reflects a strong commitment to promoting natural farming, strengthening farmer livelihoods, and ensuring access to safe and healthy food for the community.

FACULTY RESEARCH UPDATES

Dr. Anjali Tomar, Assistant Professor, SOAS, published a research article titled “The Gut Gambit: A Review of How Microbial Imbalance Fuels Metabolic Mayhem”, On 15th March 2026 in the reputed journal *Nutrients* by MDPI. This publication highlights the role of gut microbial imbalance in metabolic disorders and discusses important mechanisms such as oxidative stress, inflammation, immune signaling, and epigenetic changes.

This achievement reflects Dr. Tomar’s active involvement in interdisciplinary research and adds to the academic and research contributions of the School of Agricultural Sciences. The School congratulates Dr. Anjali Tomar and all co-authors for this valuable scholarly contribution.




Review

The Gut Gambit: A Review of How Microbial Imbalance Fuels Metabolic Mayhem

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Abstract

Background/Objectives: An imbalance in gut microbiota, known as gut dysbiosis, results in reactive oxygen species overproduction, which can cause inflammatory conditions, damage DNA, trigger immunity, and induce epigenetic modifications of crucial genes that regulate metabolic pathways. Such a condition can also weaken the resilience of the protective gut wall and elevate colon permeability, allowing toxins from the gut to reach the liver and bloodstream, contributing to oxidative damage, autoimmune diseases, and epigenetic changes linked to metabolic disorders. **Methods:** The Scopus database was exclusively searched for the literature. Relevant articles were identified using predefined keywords, including gut dysbiosis, microbiota, microbiome, oxidative stress, metabolic disorders, inflammation, and epigenetics or combinations. Gut microbiota- and diet-induced metabolic disorders, particularly obesity, insulin resistance, dyslipidemia, and hypertension, may be inherited through epigenetic pathways. **Results:** The evidence analyzed suggests that the gut microbiota serves as a diverse metabolic and immunological organ. Its disruption affects the production of short-chain fatty acids, bile acid metabolism, immune signaling, and the redox balance, which contributes to the development of obesity, insulin resistance, and metabolic syndrome. **Conclusions:** This review highlights key epigenetic mechanisms underlying metabolic disorders and oxidative stress in the context of gut dysbiosis. Furthermore, therapeutic strategies targeting the gut microbiota, such as dietary interventions, prebiotics, probiotics, postbiotics, and fecal microbiota transplantation, hold promise for mitigating oxidative stress and inflammation associated with metabolic syndrome.

Keywords: gut dysbiosis; microbiota; microbiome; oxidative stress; metabolic disorders; inflammation; epigenetics

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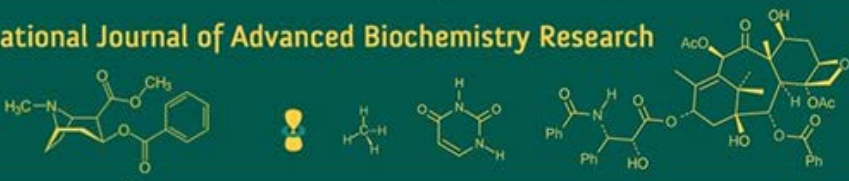
<https://doi.org/10.3390/nu18060888>

Nutrients 2026, 18, 888

Dr. Ambika Bhandari, Assistant Professor, SOAS, published a research article titled “Compost from Bioenzyme Waste Residue: Weighing Environmental Benefits Against Agricultural Challenges,” published in the International Journal of Advanced Biochemistry Research on 4th January 2026. The article highlights the potential of bioenzyme waste residue as a sustainable composting material and evaluates its environmental benefits along with its limitations for agricultural use. This publication reflects Dr. Ambika Bhandari's contribution to research in sustainable agriculture, organic waste recycling, composting, and eco-friendly nutrient management practices. The School of Agricultural Sciences congratulates Dr. Ambika Bhandari on this valuable academic achievement.

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Compost from bioenzyme waste residue: Weighing environmental benefits against agricultural challenges

Amit Kumar Patel, Vishal Kumar, Chinmayee Bharali, Indra Jeet, Ambika Bhandari, BR Iniyalakshimi, Palak Saloni and Suryansh Singh

DOI: <https://www.doi.org/10.33545/26174693.2026.v10.i2g.7646>

Abstract
 Bioenzyme production generates a substantial amount of organic residue that is often discarded despite its nutrient potential. This study aimed to convert bioenzyme waste residue into stable compost and evaluate key physico-chemical, microbial, and phytotoxicity parameters over a 60-day aerobic composting cycle. Bioenzyme residue from citrus peel fermentation was mixed with cow dung and dry leaves in a 1:1 ratio and composted in perforated bins. Progressive reductions in organic carbon and C:N ratio, along with increases in nitrogen and essential minerals, indicated effective decomposition. Microbial activity peaked during the active phase and declined as the compost matured. The germination index exceeded 80%, demonstrating the absence of phytotoxic compounds. Final mineral and heavy metal levels were within FCO (1985) permissible limits. Overall, the study confirms that bioenzyme residue can serve as an efficient feedstock for producing safe, nutrient-rich compost suitable for sustainable agricultural application.

Keywords: Bioenzyme residue, composting, organic waste recycling, nutrient enrichment

Introduction
 The growing global emphasis on sustainability has led to a keen exploration of innovative waste management strategies, particularly in the realm of agriculture. Compost derived from bioenzyme waste residue presents a compelling solution, offering numerous benefits in soil enrichment and ecological conservation, while also posing distinct challenges in application and efficacy. Bioenzymes, extracted from various organic materials, not only serve as effective composting agents but also enhance the biochemical processes within the soil, promoting healthy root development and nutrient uptake (Vaidya *et al.*, 2025) [27, 28]. By transforming typically discarded bioenzyme waste into a nutrient-rich compost, we capitalise on a circular economy model that significantly reduces landfill burdens (Singh *et al.*, 2022) [25].

The environmental impact of such composting practices is profound. The utilization of bioenzymes from organic waste contributes to a reduced carbon footprint, as seen in studies demonstrating the lower greenhouse gas emissions associated with compost compared to synthetic fertilizers (Korsa *et al.*, 2024) [30]. Moreover, the degradation of organic matter facilitated by these enzymes plays a vital role in mitigating soil degradation and enhancing soil fertility (Visco *et al.*, 2022) [31]. For instance, the integration of bioenzyme compost into agricultural soils has been shown to improve soil structure and increase water retention (Gao *et al.*, 2023) [4], delivering not only immediate benefits in crop yield but also long-term advantages for sustainable agricultural practices.

Nonetheless, the challenges associated with bioenzyme composting cannot be overlooked. One of the primary issues lies in the variability of nutrient content amidst different composting processes and raw materials. Vasanthy *et al.* (2022) [30] noted that while bioenzyme compost can be rich in essential nutrients, variations exist in its nitrogen,

BOOK PUBLISHED

Dr. Rabiya Basri, Assistant Professor, SOAS, Published a book entitled 'AI-Enhanced Pedagogy Digital Assessment, Data Analytics & Educational Management' with the Publisher 'San International Scientific Publications' on 12th January 2026.



BOOK CHAPTER

Dr. Anjali Tomar received a Certificate for the publication of a book chapter titled "Farmer Education and Training Program" in the book Research and Reviews in Humanities, Commerce and Management, Volume II. The chapter was published by Bhumi Publishing House in January 2026.



This publication reflects Dr. Anjali Tomar's academic contribution in the area of farmer education, training, and extension-oriented learning. The achievement adds to the scholarly contributions of the School of Agricultural Sciences and highlights her continued involvement in academic writing and knowledge dissemination.

INDIAN DESIGN REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE

Dr. Anjali Tomar, Assistant Professor, SOAS, has been granted an Indian Design Registration Certificate by The Patent Office, Government of India, for the design titled "Artificial Intelligence Based Plant Growth Chamber." The design was registered under Design No. 435496-001 in Class 15-03, with the date of issue of certificate as 18th February 2026. This recognition highlights Dr. Anjali Tomar's contribution to innovation and technology-driven agricultural research. The registered design reflects the growing importance of artificial intelligence in modern agriculture, particularly for controlled plant growth, precision research, and advanced crop management.

This achievement adds another valuable milestone to the academic and innovation profile of Dr. Anjali Tomar.



Abstract book: 13th International Conference: ICAHFAS-2026
held on 18th -20th March, 2026



Overcoming the 'Digital Paradox': Behavioral Determinants of AI-Advisory Adoption among Smallholder Farmers

Anjali Tomar¹, Rahul Dhankar²

¹Assistant Professor, School of Agricultural Sciences,

K.R. Mangalam University, Sohna,

²Assistant Professor, School of Agricultural Sciences,

G.D. Goenka University, Sohna Gurugram, India

Despite the rapid deployment of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in agricultural extension, a "Digital Paradox" persists: high-precision predictive tools are technically available, yet adoption rates among smallholder farmers remain critically low. This study employs a multidisciplinary framework—bridging Information Technology, Behavioral Economics, and Rural Sociology—to investigate the cognitive and structural barriers preventing the integration of AI-driven advice into traditional farming practices. The research shifts the focus from technical infrastructure to human-centric variables. Utilizing an expanded Unified Theory of Acceptance and Use of Technology (UTAUT) model, the study evaluates the impact of psychological friction points, specifically algorithmic aversion and confirmation bias. While traditional extension relies on interpersonal trust, AI systems often function as "black boxes," leading to a "trust deficit" when digital predictions deviate from inherited traditional ecological knowledge (TEK). Data collected from [Insert Sample Size/Region] reveals that perceived ease of use is secondary to source credibility. Preliminary results indicate that farmers are significantly more likely to abandon AI tools after a single erroneous prediction compared to human-led advice, a hallmark of algorithmic aversion. The study concludes that overcoming this paradox requires a "Human-in-the-Loop" (HITL) extension strategy. By positioning human extension agents as "digital translators" or trust brokers, the psychological risk of adopting automated advice is mitigated. These findings provide a roadmap for ag-tech developers and policymakers to transition from data-centric to behaviorally-aligned digital ecosystems. Ultimately, the success of AI in agriculture depends not on the sophistication of the code, but on the transparency of the interface and the strength of the social architecture supporting it.

Keywords: Digital Extension, Artificial Intelligence (AI), Behavioral Economics

Dr. Anjali Tomar, Assistant Professor, SOAS, published an abstract titled "Overcoming the 'Digital Paradox': Behavioral Determinants of AI-Advisory Adoption among Smallholder Farmers" in the abstract book of the 13th International Conference: ICAHFAS-2026, held from 18–20 March 2026. The study highlights the challenges in the adoption of AI-based advisory tools among smallholder farmers, despite the increasing availability of advanced digital technologies in agriculture. It focuses on behavioral factors such as trust, algorithmic aversion, confirmation bias, and source credibility that influence farmers' acceptance of AI-driven advice. The work emphasizes the need for a human-in-the-loop extension strategy, where human extension agents act as trusted facilitators between farmers and AI systems, helping to improve confidence, adoption, and effective use of digital advisory services in agriculture.

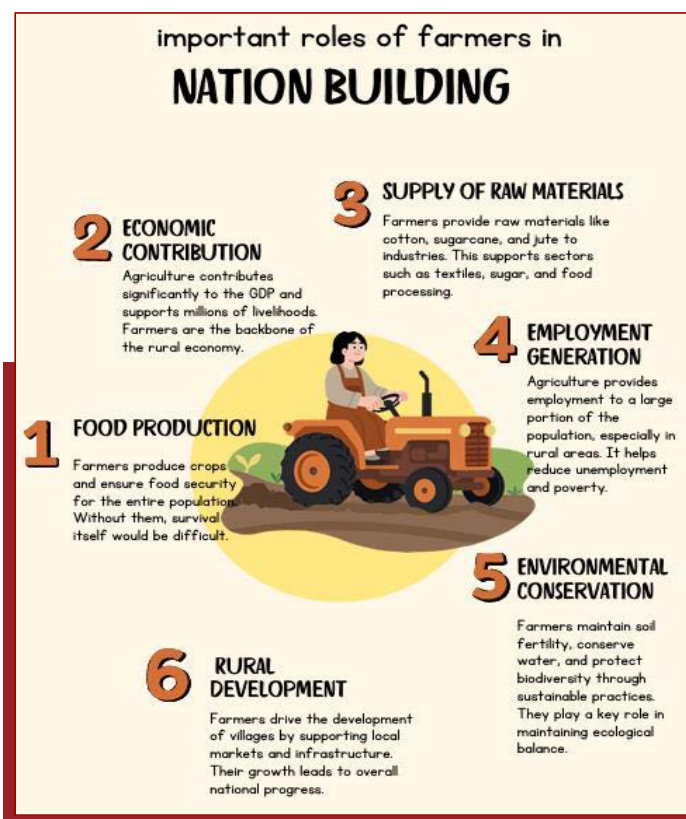
STUDENTS' CORNER



DIGITAL POSTER ON IMPORTANT ROLES OF FARMERS IN NATION BUILDING

MS. HARSHITA

B. SC. (HONS.) AGRICULTURE
IIIRD YEAR

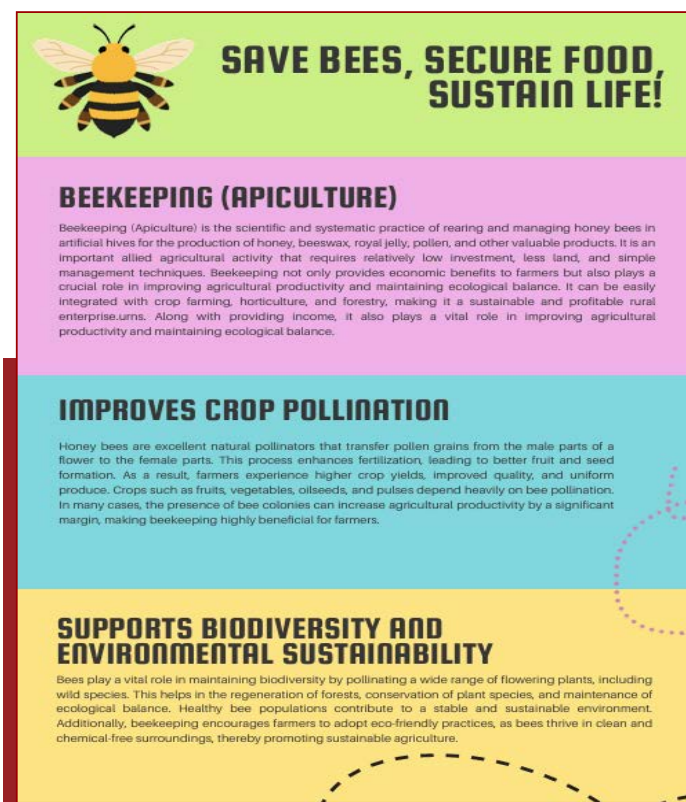


DIGITAL POSTER ON SAVE BEES, SECURE FOOD, SUSTAIN LIFE

PREPARED BY:

MR. BHANU PRATAP SINGH,

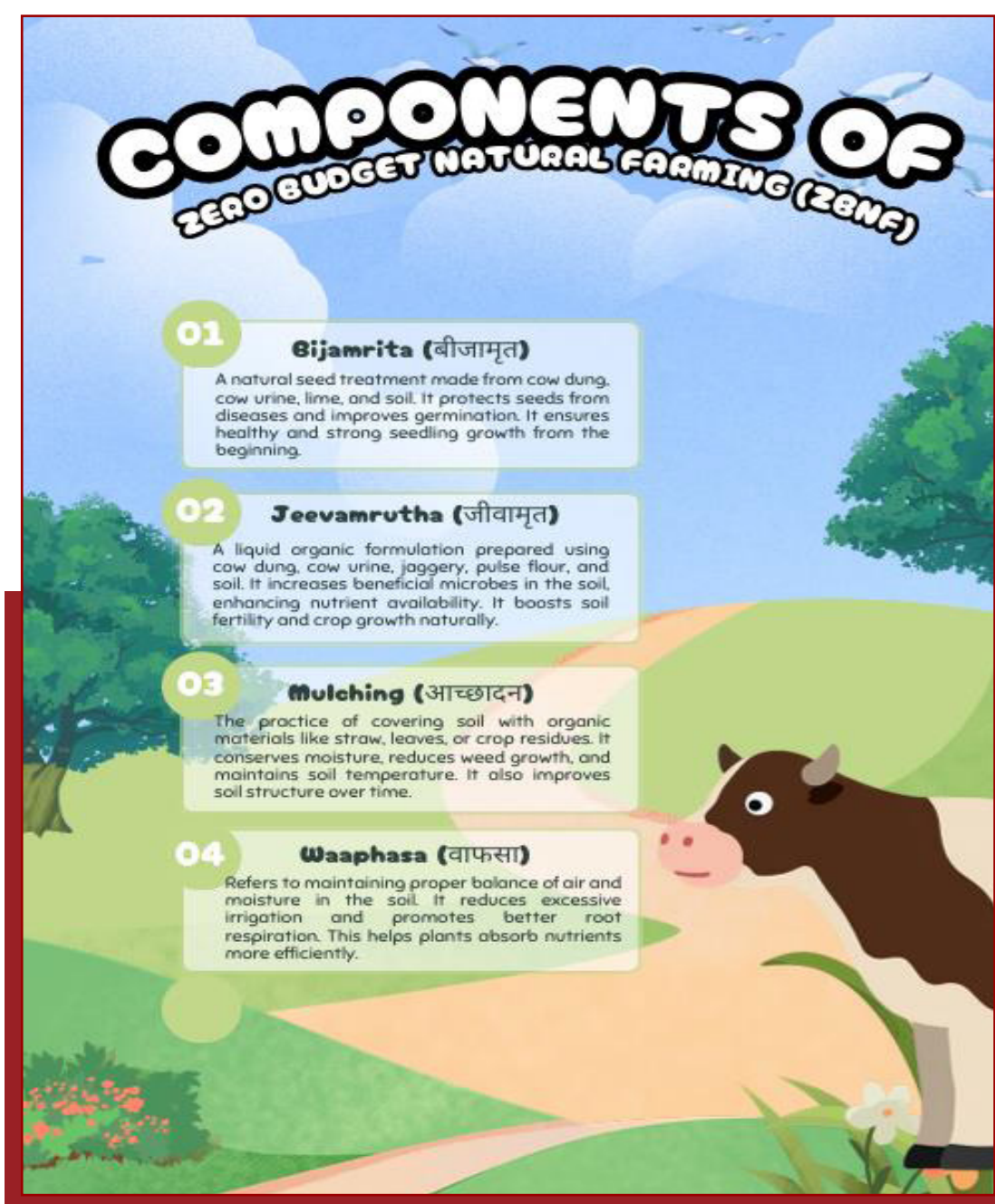
B. SC. (HONS.) AGRICULTURE
IIIRD YEAR



DIGITAL POSTER ON COMPONENTS OF ZERO BUDGET NATURAL FARMING ZBNF

MS. SURABHI DUBEY

B. SC. (HONS.) AGRICULTURE
IIIRD YEAR



SLOGANS WRITTEN BY STUDENTS OF B. SC. (HONS.) AGRICULTURE KRMU

"Farming is the art of working with nature to feed humanity."

"Young minds in agriculture can bring new hope to old fields."

"मिट्टी का सम्मान करें, क्योंकि इसी से जीवन की शुरुआत হয়ती है।"

"कृमि से ही अन्न, अन्न से ही जीवन और जीवन से ही मवकास है।"



SHIV RATTAN

B.SC. (HONS.)

AGRICULTURE, III YEAR



HARSHITA

B.SC. (HONS.)

AGRICULTURE, III YEAR

"Agriculture students are the bridge between traditional farming and modern innovation."

"Agriculture begins with soil, but its impact reaches every home and every life."

"हररत खेत, खुशहाल मकसान और सिद्ध भारत हिरा लक्ष्य है।"

"The future of food depends on the knowledge we grow today."

"Respect the soil, value the farmer, and protect the harvest."

"खेती केवल पेशा नहीं, यह जीवन और साज की आधारमशला है।"



GOURAV SAINI

B.SC. (HONS.)

AGRICULTURE III YEAR

THOUGHTS FROM FACULTY



DR. ANJALI TOMAR
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR,
SOAS

It gives me immense pleasure to share my thoughts in this edition on the vital contribution of extension education to sustainable and inclusive agricultural growth.

Extension education plays an important role in connecting research institutions with farming communities. It ensures that scientific knowledge, improved practices, and new technologies reach farmers in a simple, practical, and useful manner. By promoting skill development, participatory learning, and need-based guidance, extension education helps farmers make informed decisions and adopt practices suited to their local conditions.

In the present agricultural scenario, farmers are facing challenges such as climate variability, resource constraints, and changing market demands. Therefore, modern extension approaches like digital advisory platforms, farmer field schools, demonstrations, and community-based programs have become highly relevant. These

approaches not only improve access to information but also encourage active participation and confidence among farmers.

The true value of extension education lies in its ability to transform information into action. It strengthens farmers' knowledge, improves their problem-solving skills, and supports better productivity, livelihood security, and sustainable management of natural resources.

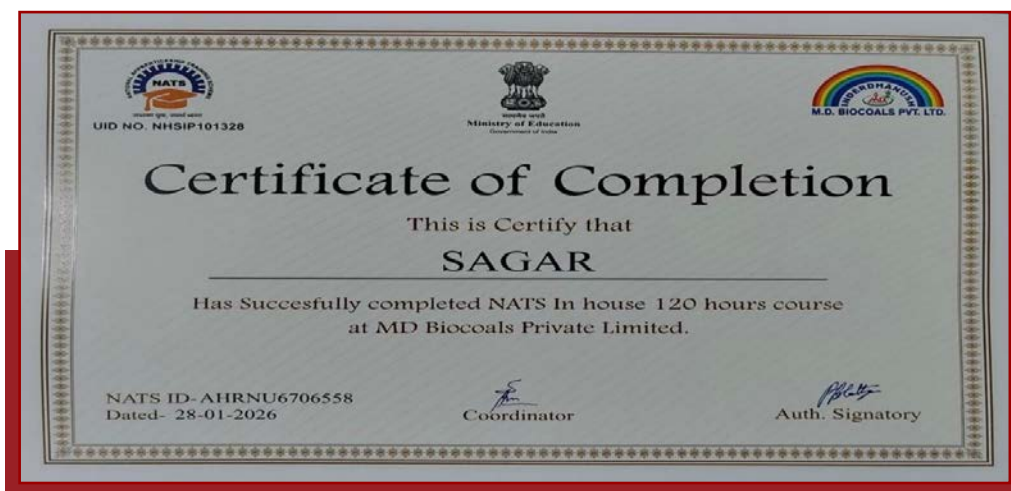
As we move ahead, there is a strong need to build closer linkages among researchers, extension professionals, farmers, and other stakeholders. A farmer-centered and innovation-driven extension system will be essential for making Indian agriculture more resilient, sustainable, and prepared for future challenges.

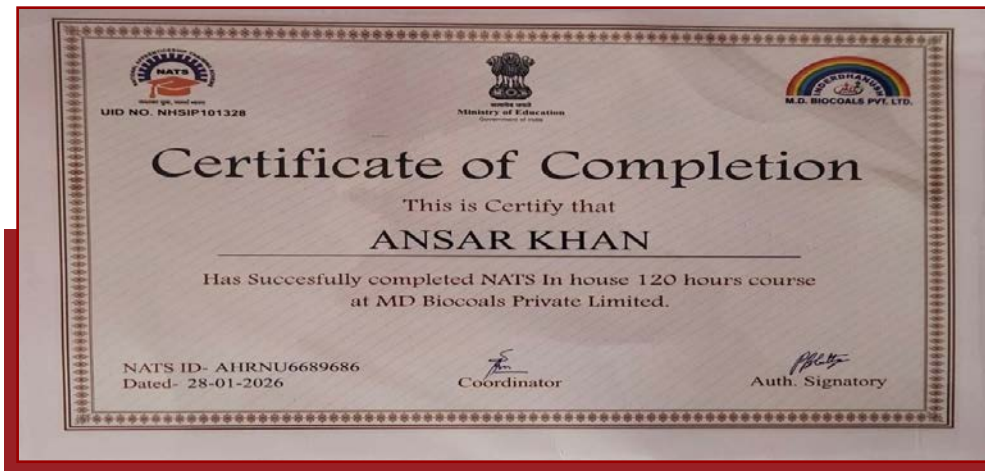
INTERNSHIP

STUDENTS COMPLETE NATS IN-HOUSE TRAINING AT MD BIOCOALS PVT. LTD.

Three students from the School of Agricultural Sciences, K.R. Mangalam University, successfully completed the NATS In-House 120 Hours Course at MD Biocoals Private Limited under the National Apprenticeship Training Scheme (NATS), Ministry of Education, Government of India. The training provided students with valuable industry exposure and helped them understand practical aspects of bioenergy, biocoal production, and related industrial processes.

This internship/training experience offered students an opportunity to connect classroom learning with real industrial practices. It also helped them enhance their technical knowledge, professional skills, and understanding of sustainable energy-based enterprises. The School of Agricultural Sciences congratulates the students on successfully completing the programme and appreciates their efforts toward skill development and experiential learning.





SOAS STUDENTS COMPLETES KVK COMPONENT OF RAWE PROGRAMME

Student of B.Sc. (Hons.) Agriculture, School SOAS, successfully completed the KVK component of the RAWE Programme at Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Ghaziabad, from 01 February 2026 to 08 March 2026.

As part of the KVK attachment, they received practical exposure to different field-based activities, including village survey work, integrated farming system modules, vegetable nursery raising, herbal garden management, natural and organic farming, soil testing and soil health card preparation, livestock and fish interventions, crop production, and extension activities such as exhibitions, seminars, experiments, diagnostic visits, and Kisan Mela.

This component helped them understand the working of KVKs in farmer training, technology transfer, extension services, and rural development. The School of Agricultural Sciences congratulates students on successfully completing the KVK component of RAWE and appreciates his efforts toward experiential learning and practical skill development.





KRISHI VIGYAN KENDRA

MURADNAGAR, GHAZIABAD (U.P.)

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel University of Agriculture & Technology Meerut-250110 (U.P.)
(ICAR - ATARI ZONE-III)

RAWE CERTIFICATE

This is Certify that Harsh Chaudhary Student of B.Sc. (Hons.) Agriculture of School of Agricultural Sciences, K.R. Mangalam University, Gurugram, Haryana, India attached with K.V.K. Ghaziabad (U.P.). From 01/02/2026 to 08/03/2026 for Fulfillment of RAWE Course. During this attachment following Components Covered in RAWE Period -

1. Village Survey Work (Dhendhe & Pursi)	6. Livestock - Fish Interventions.
2. Integrated Farming System Module.	7. Crop Production
3. Veg Nursery Raising and Herbal Garden.	8. Extension Activities (Exhibitions, Seminar Experiments, Diagnostic Visit Kisan Mela)
4. Natural and Organic Farming.	
5. Soil Testing and Soil Health Card.	

During this period His/Her Conduct Appreciable and She/He Successful Completed RAWE Work
We wish him for bright future.


 (Pallavi Chaudhary)
 RAWE Incharge
 KVK, Ghaziabad


 (Pramod Kumar)
 Officer Incharge
 KVK, Ghaziabad



KRISHI VIGYAN KENDRA

MURADNAGAR, GHAZIABAD (U.P.)

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 (Pallavi Chaudhary)
 RAWE Incharge
 KVK, Ghaziabad


 (Pramod Kumar)
 Officer Incharge
 KVK, Ghaziabad



KRISHI VIGYAN KENDRA

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We wish him for bright future.


 (Pallavi Chaudhary)
 RAWE Incharge
 KVK, Ghaziabad


 (Pramod Kumar)
 Officer Incharge
 KVK, Ghaziabad

ALUMNI



MS. ANUSHKA
BATCH: 2021-25
SOAS, KRMU

Studying at K.R. Mangalam University has been a valuable and memorable experience for me. The School of Agricultural Sciences offered a balanced learning environment where classroom teaching was supported by practical exposure through field visits, laboratory experiments, internships, and hands-on activities.

The faculty members were always supportive and guided me at every step of my academic journey. Their encouragement helped me improve my confidence, communication skills, analytical ability, and approach toward solving practical problems in agriculture.

The exposure to real field conditions and modern agricultural practices gave me a deeper understanding of the subject and prepared me for future professional opportunities. The knowledge and experience I gained here will always remain an important part of my growth and career journey.



MS. SAKSHI
BATCH: 2021-25
SOAS, KRMU

My time at K.R. Mangalam University has been a wonderful learning journey. The School of Agricultural Sciences provided me with the right blend of theoretical knowledge and practical training, which helped me understand agriculture in a more meaningful way.

Through classroom learning, field visits, laboratory sessions, workshops, and internships, I gained valuable exposure to different aspects of agricultural sciences. The faculty members were very supportive and always encouraged me to learn, ask questions, and improve myself.

This experience helped me develop confidence, discipline, teamwork, and practical skills required for my future career. The knowledge and guidance I received at the university will continue to motivate me and support my professional growth.





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