

Unnat Bharat Abhiyan



ANNUAL

REPORT

2020-2021

Kerala Agricultural University

Participating Institution

Unnat Bharat Abhiyan 2.0





KERALA AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY

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ACTIVITIES OF UNNAT BHARAT ABHIYAN 2020-2021

Unnat Bharat Abhiyan is a flagship programme of the Ministry of Human Resource Development, with the intention to enrich Rural India. The knowledge base and resources of the Premier Institutions of the country are to be leveraged to bring in transformational change in the rural developmental process. It also aims to create a vibrant relationship between the society and the higher educational institutes, with the latter providing the knowledge and technology support to improve the livelihoods in rural areas and to upgrade the capabilities of both the public and private organizations in the society. As part of Unnat Bharat Abhiyan 2.0 with the vision of bringing transformational change in rural development processes, Kerala Agricultural University, Thrissur (Participating Institute, UBA 2.0) has selected five gram panchayats viz; Mattathur, Nadathara, Pazhayannur, Venkitangu and Sreenarayanapuram panchayats of Thrissur district to impart knowledge and technology support and thereby to improve the livelihood of the people. Being the RCI Kerala Agricultural University is trying its best to ensure the quality of works done by its participating institutes. But due to COVID-19 pandemic, which has led to a dramatic loss of human life worldwide and presents an unprecedented challenge to public health, food systems and the world of work. The economic and social disruption caused by the pandemic is devastating. Tens of millions of people are at risk of falling in to extreme poverty, while the number of undernourished people, currently estimated at nearly 690 million. Millions of enterprises face an existential threat. Nearly half of the world's 3.3 billion global workforce are at risk of losing their livelihoods. The impact on Covid-19 pandemic and lockdown in Kerala has inflicted severe damage on all sectors of national and states economy and pushed the economy to an unprecedented recession. The active involvement of rural population was also reduced due to the surge in Covid-19 active cases. So, the major activities held by Kerala Agricultural University was limited to online mode only. We are always in channel with all access to address their queries and management

activities. Being a PI, KAU also found its major time for the development of the villages selected under UBA. Scientifically assessed programmes and technology transfer were the focused area of KAU. UBA is also associating with other agencies who could act accordingly in such developmental activities and also channelize the funds to ensure more productive action.

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Unnat Bharat Abhiyan- Activities 2020-2021

1. Eco-restoration activities of Sasthampoovam tribal colony at Mattathur village

The barren land was scientifically assessed and suitable native medicinal tree species have been PROGRESS REPORT(4th) identified for the planting program to attain the eco-restoration and income generation from the same medicinal trees planted in the area. Nine major medicinal trees were selected for the area was moist deciduous type. Almost two hundred seedlings from the species of *Cinnamomum verum*, *Saraca asoca*, *Mimusops elengi*, *Aegle marmelos*, *Vateria indica*, *Terminalia bellirica*, *Wrightia tinctoria*, *Caesalpinia sappan*, *Garcinia gummi-gutta* were planted and also covered with additional tree guards to protect it from the browsing of wild antelopes. We also provided three species of high yielding plants such as *Murraya koenigii*, *Acacia catechu*, *Moringa oleifera* developed by KAU which provide healthy supplements to each of the families in the colony.

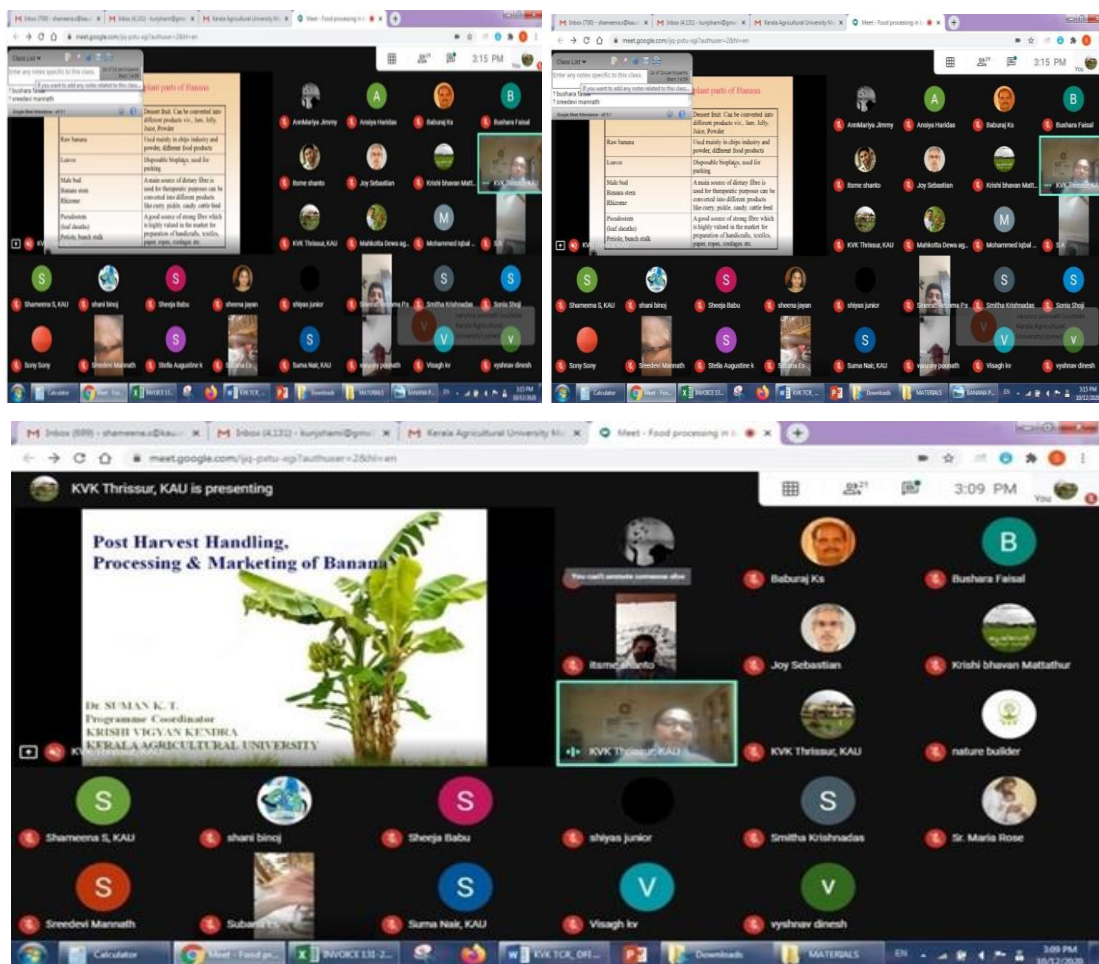


2. Training on Banana flour production for rural youth of mattathur village for entrepreneurship development

Banana flour production training for youth farmers of Mattathur village has been organized by UBA cell KAU in order to support them to produce their own product as an alternative source of income, develop confidence among themselves and enhance their economic capabilities and potentials, boost and sustain their income for the family. Hands on training for the production of banana flour, general awareness regarding the machineries and equipment connected to the venture, marketing and management of enterprises, Value addition of the by-products, Value added products of interim nature; dried slices of fruits, spices, tapioca were dealt in detail

3. Mahila Kisan Diwas- An awareness programme to empower rural women in the adopted villages

UBA Cell celebrated Mahila kisan Diwas to empower women in agriculture by making systematic investments to enhance their participation and productivity, also to create and sustain agriculture-based livelihoods of rural women in adopted village clusters



4. Training programme on Mushroom production and distribution of mushroom production kit to farmers of Sreenarayanapuram Grama panchayat

Need based livelihood income generation training on mushroom production was conducted at Sreenarayanapuram Grama panchayath. The important cultivation techniques, marketing and value addition of mushroom were discussed during the session. Thirty farmers were participated in the seminar with the aim of realizing the importance of employment in the face of unemployment during the Covid-19 period and thereby achieving self-sufficiency. The overall plan is well executed as per the design and we gifted mushroom kits for each farmer, which includes mushroom spawn, raw materials and a publication based on mushroom production



5. Agricultural Exhibition and Technology Meet



An Agricultural Exhibition and Technology Meet, a three-day seminar and exhibition were conducted at the KVK premise for the farmers of selected Grama panchayaths. The programme was made available through online and offline mode. Thirty farmers from the adopted villages of UBA namely Sreenarayanapuram, Vengitangu, Mattanur, Pazhayyanur and Nadathara actively attended and participated in the programme. An agriculture exhibition with around ten stalls were the major attraction of the event. Various agri inputs, valued products and agro-machineries were exhibited from ATIC, Mannuthy; Cashew Research Centre, Vellanikkara; ESAF, Mannuthy; Kudumbhashree; Kavungal Agro-Tech, Mannuthy; IFFCO. In addition to this, bamboo products and crockeries were also on display. Three days vigorous training programmes led by the eminent scientists from Kerala Agricultural University were organized for three consecutive days. The important topics named “Agripreneurship through value addition”, “Soil Health Management for Sustainable Agriculture” and “Scientific Management in Vegetables”, “Pest and Disease Management in Vegetables” were discussed during the three days session.

6. Training programme on compost production from water hyacinth at Venkitangu Gram panchayath.

An online training programme on compost production from water hyacinth was organized at Venkitangu Gramapanchayath. The main objective of the programme is to reduce the unprecedented spread of *Eichornia crassipes*. In addition to being a source of plant nutrients such as nitrogen, phosphorous and potassium, it improves the physio-chemical and biological properties of the soil. The weed can be used in ecologically and economically and reduce the problems related to the wide spread of the species. As water hyacinth absorbs most of the nutrients from water for self-growth, it has a high nutrient content and may be used to prepare good quality compost. The farming community were thus involved and motivated to take up compost preparing activities using water hyacinth. The training programme was organized for the local community, where the result of compost preparation was disseminated and participants were taking up compost preparing activities using water hyacinth

