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“ A true education is an ornament in times of prosperity and it is a refuge in times of adversity”

-Aristotle

Krushih Mahotsava - mass scale extension of agricultural technologies to farmers



Shri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Chief Minister, Gujarat- The Inventor of Krushi Mahotsav

Religious and cultural festivals are the regular functions celebrated by people belonging to different religions. However, agriculture is the culture of every Indian. The celebration of Krushi Mahotsava was conceptualized by Shri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Chief Minister, Gujarat. The Krushi Mahotsava has become the innovative model in India and in the World. It has become an annual festival celebrated by the Government of Gujarat in the month of May-June beginning with the *Akhatrij* in order to bring awareness about the Agricultural activities. The main objective of Krushi Mahotsava is to disseminate and deliberate about the new Agro-Technologies with the farmers at their door steps.

The contribution of Agriculture and its accomplishment of Saurashtra region is outstanding in the whole country. This region stands first in productivity of Castor, Sesamum and Onion, while second in Ground nut and Sapota. In the field of Live-stock and Animal Husbandry, this region is the origin of unique species of Jafrabadi buffalo and Gir cow which yield maximum and good quality milk.

The outcome of organizing the Krushi Mahotsav every year has been encouraging. The awareness has been created among the farmers. The farmers' problems related to Agriculture have been solved through phone, e-mails and in person. During the Krushi Mahotsava (mass scale extension of agricultural technologies to farmers), around 300 scientists from this university go to villages with *Krushih rath* and extend knowledge of modern technology and information regarding recommendations made by university. As a result, the farmers and scientists come closer to each other. Also the farmers are encouraged to accept and adopt the recommendations made by the scientists of this university in order to increase production, productivity and profit in agriculture.

Krushih Mahotsava - the Festival of Farmers



Shri Dileep Sanghani, Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture – The Propeller of Krushi Mahotsav

Saurashtra region has generally arid and semi arid type of climate, where rainfall is erratic, scanty and insufficient for agriculture. The technologies developed by the scientists of the Junagadh Agricultural University are befitting to the situation. For the first time in this region, the production of kharif sesamum has increased and got maximum profits. The same situation is to Bt cotton crop. The KVKs provide required information to the needy farmers at the same time there is good emphasis on precision farming. Healthy and qualitative seeds should be made available to the farmers to ensure higher yields. The state Government has established about 60 new soil testing laboratories through which soil samples will be tested and soil health cards distributed to the farmers. It is expected that the Swarnim Kurshih Mahotsava - the Festival of farmers will further increase income of farmers and improve livelihood of rural masses.