



NEWSLETTER

Empowering Communities, Enriching Lives

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Dr. Rajeev Ranjan, IAS (Retd)
Senior Advisor, IPL Foundation



In this November edition of our bi-monthly newsletter, we are delighted to share the ongoing positive impact of IPL and the IPL Foundation in strengthening rural communities, with a special focus on education, healthcare, and sustainable development.

The past two months have been marked by noteworthy achievements, including the spirited celebration of the Gandhi Jayanti, Science and Math Exhibition at Udbhav Shiksha Niketan School, multiple Staff Meetings, One Health Medical Camps, Amrit Internship Orientation Programmes, and Sustainability Conclave. Through our internship programme and consistent outreach efforts, we have been able to connect with around 2,200 students and benefit more than 2 lakh farmers across various regions. These experiences not only equip Amrit interns with practical knowledge and skills but also foster critical thinking, cultural understanding, and a deeper sense of social responsibility, enabling them to contribute meaningfully to their respective fields.

As we move ahead on our journey toward inclusive and sustainable growth, we remain steadfast in our commitment to deepening our connection with local communities.

We are also pleased to introduce a new segment — Employees' Corner — offering a space for team members to share their thoughts, experiences, and creative contributions. We encourage you to participate and make your voice part of our shared story. Suggestions and ideas for upcoming editions are always welcome. These accomplishments are a testament to the dedication of our team and the consistent support of Indian Potash Limited, guided by the visionary leadership of our Managing Director, Dr. P.S. Gahlaut.

We sincerely thank Chief Agricultural Scientist Dr. U.S. Teotia, the Heads of various IPL Units, and the Education Society team for their invaluable efforts in driving our mission forward.

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Field Staff Training Programme at IPL Dhenkanal Sugar Unit

A three-day Field Staff Training Programme was organized from 25th to 27th August 2025 at the IPL Campus, Dhenkanal Sugar Unit, to enhance knowledge on sugarcane crop management.

The programme was led by experts including Dr. U.S. Teotia, Dr. Bhanu Pratap, Dr. Awdhesh Kumar, and Dr. Vikas Kumar, and inaugurated by Mr. Santosh Kumar Dash, GM & Unit Head, and Mr. Vikash Kumar Chaudhary, Joint GM.



Sessions focused on integrated pest and disease management, soil health, balanced fertilization, varietal identification, water management, and seed production techniques.



Practical training included the use of Trichoderma harzianum, nutrient management, and demonstrations on the “Day Track Mobile App” for improved field effectiveness.

The programme concluded with a field visit to Adaspur and Niali, where experts emphasized the importance of clean cane supply and disease prevention. The event reflected IPL’s commitment to empowering staff with modern tools and sustainable practices in sugarcane cultivation.

Mandal-Level Review Meeting Organized at IPL Sugar Mill, Khadda

On 03.09.2025, a mandal-level review meeting was held at the premises of IPL Sugar Mill, Khadda, under the chairmanship of the Deputy Cane Commissioner of Deoria Mandal, Mr. N.P. Singh. The meeting was attended by all District Cane Officers and all Cane Heads of sugar mills.

IPL Sugar Mill, Khadda's Unit Head, Mr. N.P. Singh, and Cane Head, Mr. Sudhir Kumar, welcomed and honored the Deputy Cane Commissioner and all District Cane Officers with bouquets.



During the event, Pushpa ji and Tara Devi were felicitated with appreciation certificates by Deputy Cane Commissioner A.P. Singh, District Cane Officer Huda Siddiqui, Unit Head N.P. Singh, and Cane Head Sudhir Kumar for their significant contribution in spraying sugarcane crops using drones in the mill area.



The officials also inspected drone spraying in the fields and visited the farm of Anurag Tiwari to observe drone spraying in progress.

Later, at farmer Abid's field in village Chatur Chapra, the autumn sugarcane trench method sowing with single bud was inaugurated by cutting a ribbon. Following this, in village Bhujoli, the officials inspected sugarcane harvesting carried out by laborers provided by the mill in farmer Chhedi Jaiswal's field.

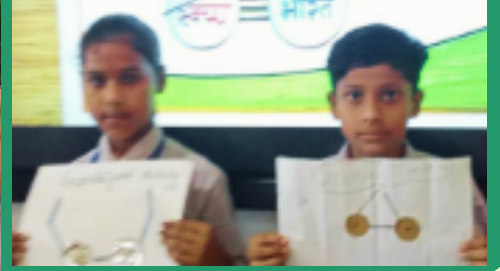


Celebrating the Spirit of Gandhi Jayanti at Udbhav Shiksha Niketan

On 2nd October, Udbhav Shiksha Niketan celebrated Gandhi Jayanti with great enthusiasm and reverence. The day began with soulful bhajans and inspiring speeches on Mahatma Gandhi's life and values of truth, non-violence, and simplicity. Students presented thoughtful performances, highlighting Gandhiji's pivotal role in India's freedom movement and the historic Dandi March, symbolizing unity and peaceful resistance. The atmosphere was filled with patriotism and respect for the Father of our Nation.



Carrying forward his vision of cleanliness, the students actively participated in a cleanliness drive, spreading awareness about hygiene and community responsibility.



The celebration concluded with a collective pledge to live by Gandhiji's principles of peace, honesty, and kindness. The event served as a beautiful reminder that his teachings continue to inspire young minds to create a better, more compassionate world.



Conference on “Clean and Healthy Rivers” at SRM University, Sonepat

SRM University Delhi-NCR, Sonepat, in collaboration with the Microbiologists Society, India (MBSI) and SKECT, organized a two-day conference on “Clean and Healthy Rivers for Reviving Jal Sanskar and Sustainability” on September 25–26, 2025, at the Sri Sarveswarar Auditorium, SRM University. The event brought together experts from academia, research, and government institutions to discuss scientific and cultural approaches to river rejuvenation.



The conference highlighted the concept of Jal Sanskar, emphasizing the need to treat rivers as living entities and promote community participation in their conservation. Discussions focused on blending traditional wisdom with modern technology for sustainable water management.



Distinguished speakers included Prof. N. K. Ganguly (Former DG, ICMR), Dr. Rajeev Ranjan (Senior Advisor, IPL Foundation & Former Chief Secretary, Tamil Nadu), Mr. Ashok Kumar (Former DG, Namami Gange), among others.

Representing IPL Foundation, Dr. Rajeev Ranjan delivered a talk on agricultural waste and river pollution. IPL Foundation looks forward to future collaborations with SRM University, Sonepat, to promote sustainability-focused research and community-driven initiatives for cleaner, healthier rivers.



National Conclave on Sustainability, Productivity and Green Growth of Agriculture

A two-day National Conclave on Sustainability, Productivity & Green Growth of Agriculture was organized at Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswavidyalaya (BCKV) in collaboration with IPL Foundation.

The conclave brought together experts, researchers, and students to discuss pathways for a greener and more resilient agricultural future. The event also witnessed the launch of the Amrit Internship Programme, an initiative empowering rural youth through e-learning modules on sustainable farming.



Dr. Rajeev Ranjan, Senior Advisor, IPL Foundation, emphasized the vital link between sustainability & productivity and urged young professionals to integrate innovation with field realities. Dr. Ashok K. Patra, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, BCKV, appreciated the foundation's support and highlighted the critical role of potassium in crop health.



Dr. Gouranga Kar, Director, ICAR-CRIJAF, underscored the importance of the 3R principles—reduce, recycle, reuse—for resource conservation.

Technical sessions covered themes like integrated farming systems, millet promotion, organic management, and

mangrove protection. The conclave concluded with an interactive poster presentation and vote of thanks by Dr. Soma Biswas, marking a collaborative step toward sustainable agricultural development.



Amrit Internship Programme at BCKV

With the vision to nurture young minds in sustainable agricultural practices, the Amrit Internship Programme, sponsored by IPL Foundation, New Delhi, commenced with an Orientation Programme held on 19th September 2025 at Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswavidyalaya (BCKV), Mohanpur, West Bengal.

The initiative aims to bridge academic learning with rural development by empowering students to work directly with farming communities.

The inaugural session was graced by Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor Dr. Ashok K. Patra, who emphasized the



importance of climate resilience and sustainable soil and crop management. The event was attended by distinguished guests including Prof. S.K. Acharya (Dean, PG Studies), Ms. Nandini Roy (Mentor, IPL Foundation), and officials from NCDC and BCKV.



Under the guidance of Dr. S.B. Goswami and Dr. S.C. Kole, and coordination of Dr. Soma Biswas and Dr. Kanu Murmu, around 50 M.Sc. (Agriculture/Horticulture) students participated in

interactive sessions covering topics such as organic farming, entrepreneurship development, productivity enhancement, and climate adaptation.

The programme concluded with the distribution of IPL-branded kits and a group photograph, symbolizing the beginning of an impactful journey toward rural transformation and agricultural innovation.



Maths Exhibition at Udbhav Shiksha Niketan

Udbhav Shiksha Niketan, Sakhoti Tanda, Meerut, organized a vibrant Maths Exhibition on 27th August 2025 for students of Classes IV to VIII, celebrating the beauty and practicality of mathematics in everyday life.

The event aimed to make students realize that mathematics is not just a subject confined to textbooks but an essential tool we use daily – from calculating time and money to cooking, shopping, and even creating art.



Students from different classes showcased innovative models, charts, and demonstrations explaining mathematical concepts and their real-life applications. The exhibition highlighted how mathematics sharpens logical thinking, improves problem-solving abilities, and enhances decision-making skills.



The event also featured fun mathematical games and puzzles that made learning interactive and enjoyable. Through creativity and curiosity, students explored the patterns, symmetry, and logic that define the world around us.



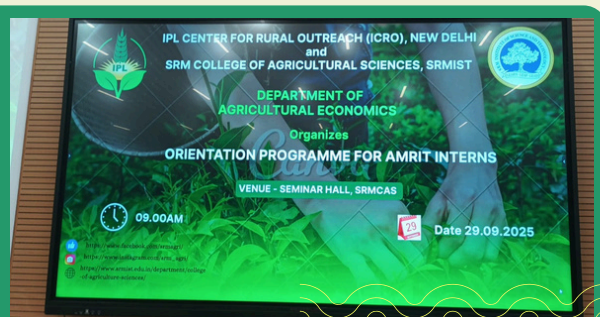
Amrit Internship Orientation Programme at SRM, Chennai

The Orientation Programme for the Amrit Internship was held at SRM College of Agricultural Sciences, Chennai on 29th October, beginning with a prayer and the traditional lighting of the lamp, symbolizing knowledge and enlightenment.

Dr. M. Jawaharlal, Dean, SRM College of Agricultural Sciences, along with faculty and guests, graced the occasion. Dr. A. Anbarassan, Programme Coordinator, welcomed the participants and highlighted the internship's role in connecting agricultural theory with practical rural experience.



In his inaugural address, Dr. Jawaharlal emphasized community-oriented learning and urged interns to approach fieldwork with sincerity and innovation. Dr. Rajeev Ranjan, Senior Advisor, IPL Foundation, delivered the keynote address online, discussing the programme's vision and its significance in promoting participatory rural engagement.



Technical sessions covered key topics such as sustainable agriculture, agri-startups, and good agricultural practices, led by experts from the institution and the Department of Agriculture. The post-lunch session involved practical training on data collection and farmer interaction, enhancing interns' field readiness.



A total of 50 M.Sc. students participated enthusiastically, gaining practical skills and field readiness. The programme concluded successfully, empowering interns to contribute to agricultural growth and rural development.

Tree Plantation Drive – “Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam 2.0”

On 17th September 2025, in alignment with the Government of Odisha's mission “Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam 2.0”, Indian Potash Limited (IPL) units across Odisha actively participated in a massive tree plantation drive aimed at planting over 75 lakh trees in a single day.

At the Talajaring GBD Plant, the programme commenced with a Bhumi Puja, followed by plantation activities under the leadership of Mr. D.P. Dwivedy, Project Head, all officers and employees enthusiastically took part in this green initiative.



Officials from the Industrial Development Corporation of Odisha Ltd. (IDCO) also visited the site to inspect and appreciate the efforts, capturing photographs of the plantation activities.



Similarly, at the IPL Haripur, Dhenkanal unit, extensive plantation was carried out behind the ETP, Distillery, and adjoining areas within the sugar mill premises to develop a sustainable green belt around the factory.



Sustainability talk on Climate, Health & Nutrition at Ethiraj College for Women, Chennai

Sustainability talk on Climate, Health & Nutrition, held on 22nd October 2025 at Ethiraj College for Women, Chennai, was jointly organised by Chennai International Centre (CIC) and IPL Foundation to explore how climate change impacts food systems and public health.

Eminent speakers, including Dr. Soumya Swaminathan (Chairperson, MSSRF & Former Chief Scientist, WHO), Dr. E.D. Israel Oliver King, Director, Biodiversity Programme, MSSRF & experts from CIC and MSSRF shared insights on the urgent need for sustainable and inclusive solutions.



Dr. Swaminathan's keynote on "The Human Face of Climate Change" highlighted the growing health threats from rising temperatures, air pollution, and shifting food systems. She advocated for climate-resilient diets, especially the adoption of millets and traditional crops, and underscored the pivotal role of women as agents of climate action.



Other sessions by Dr. E.D. Israel Oliver King and Dr. Rupesh K. Bhomia explored agrobiodiversity, community resilience, and the ecological value of wetlands.



The session reflected IPL Foundation's ongoing commitment to environmental stewardship, public health, and youth empowerment—encouraging the next generation to lead with knowledge, compassion, and action.



One Health Medical Camp at Chanvai Village, Valsad, Gujarat

In line with its commitment to holistic community development, Indian Potash Limited Foundation organized a One Health Medical Camp on 14th October 2025 at the Centre of Excellence for Floriculture & Mango, Chanvai Village, Valsad. The initiative aimed to promote integrated health and well-being of people, livestock, and the environment.

The camp began at 9:00 AM with a warm welcome to the attending guests — including Dr. Mrunal Desai (M.D.-Physician), Dr. Dhruvin Patel (Orthopedic Surgeon), Dr. Pinal D. Patel (Gynecologist), and another



expert from Healfirst Multispecialty Hospital, along with representatives from Navsari Agricultural University.

Around 197 villagers received free health checkups and medicines. Some patients were referred to Healfirst Hospital for further treatment at no cost.



Simultaneously, a livestock camp provided veterinary care to 20 cattle, ensuring preventive treatment.



Experts also shared valuable insights on modern sugarcane cultivation and soil health management for improved productivity. The camp concluded at 1:30 PM with distribution of sweets and lunch to the participating doctors, scientists, and staff.



This initiative reflects IPL Foundation's continued commitment to fostering community health and sustainable agricultural growth.



One Health Medical Camp at Khadda, Kushinagar, Uttar Pradesh

Under its CSR initiative, Indian Potash Limited Foundation, in collaboration with RISE Foundation, organized a two-day One Health Medical Camp on 11th-12th October 2025 at IPL Sugar Unit, Khadda, Kushinagar, Uttar Pradesh.

The camp focused on promoting the integrated well-being of humans, animals, plants, and soil through the globally recognized “One Health” approach, which emphasizes the interconnection between people, livestock, crops, and the environment.



On Day 1, focusing on Human, Soil, and Plant Health, over 435 villagers availed free medical check-ups, eye and dental screenings, and essential medicines. Around 100 soil samples were tested using portable kits, with on-the-spot advisories on fertilizer use and crop protection by experts from the Sugarcane Research Institute, Searahi.



On Day 2, the Animal Health Camp at Hanuman Ganj Padrawan village benefited 45+ livestock owners, with 140+ cattle examined and treated. Farmers also received deworming medicines, mineral



mixtures, and practical guidance on animal hygiene and feeding.

The initiative strengthened community awareness on preventive health, scientific agriculture, and livestock care, underscoring IPL Foundation's commitment to holistic rural development and sustainable living.



Success Story: Spirit of Endurance – Dr. Rajeev Ranjan's Half Marathon Journey



Dr. Rajeev Ranjan, Senior Advisor at IPL Foundation and a retired IAS officer, recently showcased remarkable determination and enthusiasm by successfully completing the Vedanta Delhi Half Marathon, held on 12th October 2025 in New Delhi.

Recognized globally as one of the premier road races, the Vedanta Delhi Half Marathon attracts elite athletes and fitness enthusiasts from around the world. Dr. Ranjan's participation and completion of this challenging event is a testament to his unwavering commitment to health, discipline, and perseverance.

His achievement serves as an inspiration to the entire IPL Foundation family—reminding us that age is no barrier when passion and determination lead the way.

At IPL Foundation, we are committed to keeping you up-to-date with the latest news and developments across all areas of the organization. Our goal is to offer you a unique platform for accessing important information. We appreciate your ongoing support and encourage you to continue being a part of this journey.

Please feel free to share this newsletter with your contacts to keep them informed about the recent activities of IPL and IPL Foundation. We'd love to hear your thoughts! Share any suggestions or ideas for new features you'd like to see in future newsletters. Your feedback is always welcome!

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