


**Day
celebration
2023-24**

**EVENTS
EVENTS****63rd Maharashtra Day**

Vasantdada Sugar Institute celebrated 63rd Maharashtra Day popularly known as 'Maharashtra Din' as the formation of western Indian state on May 1, 1960. On this occasion National flag

was hoisted by Mr. Sambhaji Kadupatil, DG along with Mr. Shivajirao Deshmukh, Advisor, Mr. DB Ghule, Registrar/Principal. All the staff members and students were present.




Principal
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National Technology Day

Technology thrives in every area right from agriculture and healthcare to application and food services. National Technology Day is celebrated on May 11 every year to commemorate the achievements of scientists, researchers, engineers and all others involved in the field of science and technology. At VSI, we have celebrated this special day by organizing a lecture of an eminent scientist or researcher on a subject of interest every year. The subjects have ranged from applications of biotechnology to nanotechnology, technology transfer, supercomputing, intellectual property rights etc. The Technology Development Board of the Ministry of Science & Technology declared this year's theme as "School to Startups-Igniting Young Minds to Innovate". In keeping with the theme, VSI invited Dr. Rajendra Shende, Founder Director, Green Terre Foundation and former Director, United Nations Environment Program, Paris who has worked on the global stage and is now working for inspiring the youth through the 'Smart Cloud Campus Network'. Mr. Sambhaji KaduPatil, Director General (DG), VSI, presided over the program.

The function began with the lighting of the lamp by Dr. Shende, the Director General and others. Dr. Deepali Nimbalkar introduced the speaker. She mentioned that he is an international expert on Sustainable Development, Green Economy, Climate Change, Energy, Ozone Layer Protection and Food

security. He was Coordinating Lead Author of Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) that shared Nobel Peace Prize in 2007 with Al Gore. After the introduction, the Director General felicitated Dr. Shende and addressed the audience. He explained the background of the National Technology Day and the 3 events that happened on May 11, 1998 which laid the foundation for this day being declared as national celebration.

Dr. Shende delivered a talk on 'Technology 1.0 To 5.0: Did we forget Technology 0.0?' He initiated his talk by explaining about the development of technology from 1.0 to 5.0 and how the pace of technological development has grown exponentially. He cautioned about the dangers of artificial intelligence as a part of technology 5.0 and said that nature was much more advanced than most of the technological developments made by man. Infact, many technological developments have been inspired by nature. He gave examples of the dung beetles accurate movements and carrying load many times more than its body weight, perfect ventilation in huge termite nests/ant holes etc. which were inspiring development of today. He also explained part of his work on solar energy and development of solar vaccine cooler.

His talk was very well received by the staff and students of VSI. The function ended with vote of thanks by Dr. Preeti Deshmukh.



77th Independence Day

VSI celebrated 77th Independence Day of India on August 15, 2023. National flag was hoisted by Mr. Sambhaji Kadupatil, DG at VSI campus. Mr. Shivajirao Deshmukh, Advisor, Mr. DB Ghule, Registrar/Principal, staff members and students

were present. On this occasion Mr. Shivajirao Deshmukh and Mr. Sambhaji Kadupatil gave awards to meritorious children of VSI employees for their excellent academic achievements.



EVENTS**National Seed Day**

Under ICAR seed project Vasantdada sugar institute had organized National Seed Day on October 4, 2023. On this occasion a one day training programme was organized on "Sugarcane cane seed multiplication & production technology" for cane development officer, agriculture assistants of sugar mills & seed nursery farmers.

Mr. Vikas Patil, Director, Input and Quality, Commissionerate of Agriculture, Pune, Govt. of Maharashtra was the chief guest. The workshop was inaugurated by the lighting of lamp by auspicious hands of Mr. Vikas Patil, Mr. Sambhaji Kadupatil, Director General and Dr. AD Kadlag Principal Scientist. The welcome address was given by Mr. RN Gaikwad, Scientist. Dr. AD Kadlag guided to the participants regarding importance of three tier sugarcane seed system. He mentioned that three tier seed multiplication programme is helpful for adoption of varietal and seasonal planting in the operational areas of mills. He also stressed that improved cultivation techniques are needs to be adopted for enhancing per unit cane and sugar productivity.

Mr. Sambhaji Kadupatil, in his inaugural speech mentioned that the seed is most crucial inputs in

sugarcane farming. Those mills and farmers are using same seed material year after year hence, productivity is also decline. He highlighted the role played by VSI in production of breeder's seed. He stressed upon the role of sugar mills and their contribution in the seed replacement in the state is very low (6%). It is most important to replace sugarcane seed once in three years. In view of this, institute raising breeder's seed every year on 40 ha. area for distribution to mills. Very few mills lifting seed as per their demand. Most of mills are not aware about the importance of seed.

Mr. Vikas Patil in his talk highlighted the importance of inputs and quality related information of Govt. of Maharashtra guidelines to other crops.

During technical session Dr. JM Repale, Sr. Scientist, Plant Breeding section delivered the lecture on "Varietal scenario in the state, its planning and identification". Mr. RN Gaikwad, scientist, farm section on "sugarcane cane seed multiplication & seed production technology" and Dr. RA Sawant, Scientist and Head, tissue culture, on "Sugarcane seed production through tissue culture". An event was concluded with vote of thanks.





48th Foundation Day of VSI

VSI celebrated 48th Foundation Day on November 19, 2022. On this occasion Mr. Sumit Malik, Information Commissioner, Maharashtra was present as Chief Guest. The event was inaugurated by the lighting of lamp by auspicious hands of Mr. Sumit Malik, Mr. Sambhaji Kadupatil, Director General, Mr. Shivajirao Deshmukh, Advisor and Dr. AD Kadlag Principal Scientist. Crop Protection & Crop Production AS & T. VSI staff members were present during the function.

Mr. Sambhaji Kadupatil welcomed dignitaries and VSI staff members. He felicitated and introduced the Chief Guest.

Mr. Sumit Malick in his speech shared his experiences while working with Govt. Sector. He also appreciated the R & D work and other activities being carried out in the VSI. Mr. Shivajirao Deshmukh, in his talk shared the various developments in VSI. The function concluded with vote of thanks by Mr. RS Gangele, Personal Manager, VSI.





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The 75th Republic Day of India

The 75th Republic Day of India was celebrated on January 26, 2024. As per tradition, Mr. Sambhaji Kadupatil, Director General, hoisted National Flag was unfurled followed by the National Anthem. On this occasion Mr. Shivajirao Deshmukh, Advisor, Mr. DB Ghule Principal / Registrar and staff members and students were present in the campus.




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EVENTS EVENTS

64th Maharashtra Day

Vasantdada Sugar Institute celebrated 64th Maharashtra Day commonly known as *Maharashtra Din* which is celebrated annually on May 1st to commemorating the formation of the state of Maharashtra in India from the division of the Bombay State on May 1, 1960. It is celebrated to commemorate the creation of a Marathi-speaking state of Maharashtra. On this occasion National Flag hoisted by Mr. Sambhaji Kadupatil, Director General at VSI campus, in presence of Mr. Shivajirao Deshmukh, Advisor, Mr. DB Ghule, Registrar and guest of honor Dr. R. Vishwanthan, Director, Indian Institute of Sugarcane Research (IISR), Lucknow, staff members and students of VSI.




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National Technology Day

Vasantdada Sugar Institute celebrated National Technology Day 2024 a day in advance on May 10, 2024 to deliberate on the marvels of innovation and progress. Dr. Santosh Mhaske, Senior Principal Scientist (F) and Professor, AcSIR at National Chemical Laboratory was invited as the chief guest on this occasion. The event was attended by the Director General, Mr. Sambhaji Kadupatil, all staff and students of the Institute. It commenced with a welcome by Dr. Deepali Nimbalkar, Head of the Department of Environmental Science, setting the tone for an engaging gathering. This was followed by lighting of the ceremonial lamp by the guest and dignitaries.

Dr. KS Konde, Head of the Department of Alcohol Technology, then introduced the chief guest for the function, Dr. Santosh Mhaske, highlighting his accomplishments in the field of technology, his work for the Pharma sector and his awards including the CIPLA-HAMIED Best Process Development Award for Rosuvastatin (Rosuvastatin belongs to a group of medicines called HMG-CoA reductase inhibitors, or statins. It works by blocking an enzyme that is needed

by the body to make cholesterol, so this reduces the amount of cholesterol in the blood) by NCL-RF, 2022-2023. Dr. Mhaske was then felicitated by the Director General.

The Director General then addressed the gathering and highlighted the role of technology in modern life and developments. He also stressed on the significance of celebrating such days.

Dr. Mhaske in his lecture, not only elucidated the essence of Technology Day but also delved into a significant historical event-the nuclear tests conducted at Pokhran. He enlightened the audience about the pivotal role of technology in the successful execution of the tests, showcasing the indomitable spirit of scientific endeavor. This served as an inspiration for the students and a poignant reminder of the monumental achievements made possible through scientific ingenuity and technological prowess.

The function ended by a vote of thanks by Ms. Jyoti Kharde, Scientist, Soil Science section.

