

Signing of MoU between AAU and Space Applications Centre, ISRO,
Ahmedabad on 14 September, 2023

Anand Agricultural University is closely working with Space Applications Centre, ISRO, Ahmedabad for last 33 years for various applications of space technology in agriculture. Since then, total 20 projects are completed by collaboration or funding from SAC and ISRO at Dept. of Agril. Meteorology and Dept. of Basic Sciences and Humanities, BACA in various area of agriculture like Crop Acreage, Soil Moisture estimation, Microwave application, Hyperspectral applications, Photosynthetically Active Radiation (PAR) modelling, GISAT and many more.

To formalize this long association with broader vision and objectives, the MoU was signed between AAU and SAC, ISRO, Ahmedabad on 14 September, 2023 at SAC, Ahmedabad in the august presence of Hon. Vice Chancellor Dr. K. B Kathiria and Shri Nilesh Desai, Director SAC, ISRO, Ahmedabad. Dr. M. K. Jhala, Director of Research and Dean PG studies, AAU, Anand remained present and played an instrumental role in making this successful. Dr. R. S. Pundir, PI, NAHEP CAAST and Dr. Rucha Dave, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Basic Sciences, BACA also remained present and will be the focal persons from AAU side and Dr. B. K. Bhattacharya from SAC side for this MoU. Other eminent scientists from SAC were also present.



The broad objectives of the MoU are developing a model for price forecasting of selected agri-commodities, Capacity building of the faculties, students, researchers and other stakeholders on geo-spatial tools and applications in agriculture, Guidance related to research work in the field of satellite data applications to undergraduate, postgraduate and doctoral students and faculty

members of AAU and to promote and enhance academic and research interaction and collaboration between AAU and SAC in the areas of mutual interest

Currently, NAHEP-CAAST project at AAU funded by World Bank and ICAR, is having multidisciplinary approach for market intelligence where price forecasting is one of the major objectives. SAC, Ahmedabad is one of the collaborating agency for the same where satellite data are being utilized along with machine learning and AI for developing the model which would help increasing the accuracy of price forecast keeping multiple parameters in consideration. Apart from that the collaboration would also provide the insight for newly developing Centre for Precision Farming System under RKVY.