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To
The Editor,

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Sir,

I request that the following matter may kindly be published in your esteemed daily:

Cultivate Scientific Temper among Common Man

International Conference on Open and Distance Learning (ODL) on Sustainable development in Agriculture is held at Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore on 24-11-2016. More than 200 participants from throughout the country and around 10 delegates from abroad participated in two days conference started from today.

During the conference, in his presidential address Dr. K. Ramasamy, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU said that it is not only knowledge, but skill need to be built along to the learners of ODL. He insisted the importance of module based learning, which is existed in developed countries, learners should be provided with well equipped course wise. He reiterated the importance of believing system he requested scientists and delegates have a faith on the system, come forward to working together for uplifting common man. TNAU scientist should use these kinds of opportunities and interact with international scientist came here for deliberation and motivate them to collaborate with TNAU for future academic, research and extension work. It is because, we have to prepare out individual students to global competitions.

Dr. M. Bhaskaran, Vice-Chancellor, Tamil Nadu Open University (TNOU), Chennai in his inaugural address said that, last 60 years of education paves way to reach only 20 percent of farming community. With shrinking of natural resources, the available agricultural technologies should be appropriately transferred to farming communities. Transferring through extension personnel is one way, but more important is in our contemporary situation 10 that, educate our farmers and common public through open and distance learning, which made themselves to search whatever they want, he added.

Dr. R. Gopichandran, Director, Vigyan Prasar, DST, Noida in his key note address, the challenge before among us is that communicate science to non scientist. Writing for common man is equally important as we write for scientist journal. Before communicate, he request the scientist to take note of five important indication which was referred by National Science Foundation – 2016. 1. Do they know enough about science. 2. Are they interested in learning. 3. Do they believe scientist. 4. Do they believe about new opportunity in science at technology 5. Do they have confident in practicing or investing in what they learn. He also uttered the need of building science with among common public.

The conference souvenir is released by TNOU Vice-Chancellor Dr. M. Baskaran and received by Tamil Nadu Agricultural University Vice-Chancellor Dr. K. Ramasamy.

Earlier, Dr. P. Shanthi, Director Open Distance Education (ODL), welcomed the gathering. Finally, Dr. Jayarani, Professor, ODL proposed vote of thanks.

Public Relations Officer