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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:

National Workshop on Cost of Cultivation Scheme at TNAU

The National Workshop on Cost of Cultivation Scheme inaugural function was held on 18-1-2017 is being organized in the Centre for Agricultural and Rural Development Studies, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU), Coimbatore.

Dr. K. Ramasamy, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU presided over the function stressed the importance of fund allocation for Agricultural investment so as to increase the income of the farmers and producing more with increased productivity. The scientific community is having a big role, especially those who are involved in data collection and fixing minimum support price (MSP) and procurement price. This would enable the farmers to increase their livelihood. Countries like Netherlands, Brazil and Thailand are focusing few commodities and find prominent place in production of these crops in global level. Israel also desalinated the limited water to overcome the water constraints for the production of Agricultural crops. When there is a glut in production farmers are left their production in-situ because the income realized is lower than the cost of production. Hence fixing MSP is important to realize the cost.

Dr. V. Irai Anbu, I.A.S, Principal Secretary-Commissioner, Department of Economics and Statistics, Government of Tamil Nadu inaugurated the function. He stressed the importance of cost aspects of various principal crops and also importance of the quality data. Due to increasing importance of nutritional security in Tamil Nadu, the efforts may be taken to include the prominent horticulture crops in the collection of data on cost of cultivation. Further, the effect of Government programme on the beneficiaries and the

society are need to be studied on a continuous manner. He emphasized the importance of converting the data in to information, knowledge and wisdom.

Dr. S.K. Mukherjee, Senior Economic & Statistical Adviser, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Government of India, delivered keynote Address. He explained the importance of cost of cultivation scheme and the change in concept of the scheme once in four years according to the need. The quality data collection and timely availability is important for fixing the price before sowing. The new software is being introduced which ensures the data availability in time. Currently, central and state Government, officials and policy makers are accessing the data.

Shri. Chander Kant, Additional Statistical Adviser, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Government of India, explained the operation of cost of cultivation scheme in India. The scheme is in operation all over India, each state principal crop have been indentified and data were collected. The scheme is operation from 1971 onwards in Tamil Nadu by Tamil Nadu Agricultural University for collecting the data on 12 commodities in various parts of state. This would definitely increase the net income of the farmer.

Dr. Nandh Lal, Advisor, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Government of India, explained the role of Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Ministry of Agriculture in data collection, analysis and policy support for Government of India in announcing various administered prices.

Dr. M. Chinnadurai, Director, CARDS, welcomed the gathering and Dr. K. Mani, Honorary Director of the Cost of Cultivation Scheme of Tamil Nadu and Professor and Head, Dept. of Agrl. Economics, TNAU, Coimbatore proposed the vote of thanks.

Public Relations Officer