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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:

Promote Farmers to Farmers Technology Delivery through KVK

The Directorate Extension Education of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU) is organized two days (Mar. 7-8, 2017) Symposium on “Front line Extension Program for Realizing higher Productivity and profitability in Farming”, here in TNAU, Coimbatore was inaugurated today on Mar. 7, 2017. This symposium is organized with Subject Matter Specialist and Program Coordinator of the 82 Krishi Vigyan Kendra (Farm Science Centre) from Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Goa and Puducherry.

Dr. Sreenath Dixit, Director, Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute, Bangalore in his special address said that Subject Matter Specialist (SMS) in the KVKs are the vein of Indian agricultural technology delivery system. It is the humble attempt just started in the last year in Shimoga, Karnataka and based on the response it is decided to conduct every year zone wise symposium to give a platform to share the experience of SMS with their fellow who is working one of the 82 KVKs in the Zone VIII. It is the SMS who regularly visit the farmer’s field and bring back the field realities to the scientist. Thus they need to discuss among themselves with their rich field experience and this symposium is paved way for that. Delivering right solution to the farmer’s problem in the field is different ball game. Coordination between Program Coordinator and SMS is foremost important to provide timely support to the needy farmers. Usually, all the official meetings were conducted by inviting Program Coordinator (PC) from the KVK due to financial constraints. When

the PC from concern KVK was attending the particular meeting, he/she needs to depend on SMS knowledge. Hence, mutual trust and collaborative responsibility among them is become vital important, he added.

Dr. K. Ramasamy, Vice Chancellor, TNAU, Coimbatore in his inaugural address reiterated the importance and contribution of the KVKs for farming community. India's food grains production in 2016/17 is rise by 8.1 percent from a year ago to a record high 271.98 million tonnes. It was a great achievement despite all the difficulties farming community face today. It may be attributed to the Scientists of KVK who desperately working with farming community at the field level. He requested the KVK scientist to maintain 25 acre of land with their locally important crops and try to get yield above the average of state yield. It will demonstrate itself and attract farming community to visit your field and pave the way to mutual exchange of ideas.

He also insists that Extension scientist in the KVK is needed to identify revolutionary farmer and not a receptive farmer. The identified revolutionary farmer may act as catalyst and ultimately leads to farmer to farmer extension. Like Training and Visit System (T & V) and ATMA, we need to find out new ways to reach out the farmers. It is right time to think about how to effectively use student potential for not only addressing the field problems but also it renders rich field experience which enable them the reorient themselves for future action. He ask the scientist also come forward themselves for mid-course correction which will pay rich dividend both to organization and individual, he added.

During the inauguration, two books containing research articles of SMS of KVKs and CD were released by the Vice Chancellor, TNAU and received by the Director, ATARI, Bengaluru.

Earlier, Dr. H. Philip, Director of Extension Education, TNAU welcomed the gathering. Dr. Sairam, Principal Scientist, ATARI, Bengaluru proposed a formal vote of thanks.

Public Relations Officer