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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:

TNAU launched Fellowship for Doctoral Research

The Tamil Nadu Agricultural University has launched Vice-Chancellor's Fellowship scheme to attract talent for doctoral research and encourage them to make innovative demand driven research proposal on the frontier areas of agriculture and technology. This fellowship offers a student with a monthly stipend of Rs.10,000/- p.m. besides Rs.75,000/- p.a. towards their research assistance for about 2 years. The scheme was open to all the registered candidates of Ph.D's in The Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU). Out of 17 applications, 4 were selected for this award based on quality of research proposal. M.T. Andrew Peter Leon from Genetics and Plant Breeding, P. Suresh from Nematology, E. Sathyapriya from Agrl. Extension and Rural Sociology and V. Dhivya from Agrl. Entomology were selected for this fellowship.

Dr. K. Ramasamy, Vice-Chancellor has awarded the candidates with award certificate and order to proceed with their approved research. Since publishing Ph.D's research work becomes one of the core mandate of the University, this research will enable the scholars to compete with global Universities for top ranking (QS and THE). Dr. K. Ramasamy advised the research scholars to publish their research works in high impact factor journals.

While interacting with the awardees, Dr. U. Sivakumar, the Dean of Post Graduate Studies narrated the importance of the quality research which always reflects on the publications and following citation by the global researchers. The University is already on the race to make their students research as globally competitive as witnessed by our efforts in improving scientific writing skills of the students. In this context, already the first workshop targeting selected Ph.D's and faculties was successfully conducted during November 2017 and two more workshop are planned during December 2017 and January 2018, respectively in order to make all the Ph.D scholars trained on making quality research publications. The registrar of TNAU,

Dr. D. Sudhakar also pointed out that all the young faculties of the University would be trained to make publications high impact factor Journals within 2018.

One of the awardees responded that “the selection process for the award was very tough and stringent” and also made us to revise the research proposal. Although there were five fellowships available, only four were selected suggest that University is not ready to compromise for the quality of research being taken up at TNAU.

The University has also announced the call for the Vice-Chancellor’s fellowship this year 2018.

The Vice-Chancellor’s fellowship offers a decent support to the students involved in doctoral research. No doubt it will improve the quality of the research from TNAU. We, students are extremely happy to receive this prestigious fellowship, as this is the first time, the University is offering such fellowship. We understand that research support would motivate the students to opt for cutting-edge research, which in turn would contribute to the betterment of farmer’s livelihoods. We are thankful to Dr. K. Ramasamy, Vice-Chancellor and Dr. U. Sivakumar, Dean (SPGS) for giving this opportunity, the students said.

Public Relations Officer