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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:

**KVKs have a major role to play in doubling farmers' income by 2022" -  
Expert**

The Krishi Vigyan Kendras (Farm Science Centres) that serve in every rural district of the country could play a predominant role in doubling the farmers' income, said Dr. Y.G.Prasad, Director, Indian Council of Agricultural Research -Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute (ATARI), Hyderabad, here recently.

Speaking at the International Conference on "Invigorating Transformation of Farm Extension towards Sustainable Development: Futuristic Challenges and Prospects (INTFES-18)" in Tamil Nadu Agricultural University. Dr Prasad said that such international conferences provide an opportunity for sharing of knowledge on various extension approaches being practised in other countries for customizing to local situations. The average monthly income of an Indian farmer is only around Rs.6400/- at present;. To double it by the year 2022, there should be increase in productivity, decrease in cost of production, increase in income and adoption of the best package of practices. Value addition at farm level is one of the effective ways of increasing the income of the farmers, he added.

Delivering the Presidential address at the valedictory function, Dr. H. Philip, President, Extension Education Society (EES), Director of Extension Education and the Organizing Secretary of the Conference, mentioned that over 400 delegates from different parts of the world had attended the conference. The conference had six technical sessions besides a plenary session, wherein renowned extension experts delivered talks on the burning issues in the field of agricultural extension, he said. The 'Journal of Extension Education', whose online open-access version was launched during the conference, would help in sharing of prevailing trends in extension in different parts of the world, and the concerns and the challenges encountered by the extension professionals, he added. He hoped that the recommendations that emerged out of the deliberations would find a place in the policy documents of research and extension institutions.

Dr. S.Usharani, Principal Scientist, Central Institute of Cotton Research welcomed the gathering. Dr. D. Puthira Prathap, Chief Editor, Journal of Extension Education and Principal Scientist, ICAR-Sugarcane Breeding Institute proposed the formal vote of thanks at the valedictory session.

As many as fifty awards were given away and eleven senior experts in the field of agricultural extension were honoured during the valedictory session of the conference. Dr. P. Sivaraj & Dr. S. Sangeetha bagged the prestigious EES (Extension Education Society) Young Scientist awards.

Public Relations Officer