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To  
The Editor,

Date: 01-08-2019

Sir,

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

### **TNAU bags Institutional Development Plan, NAHEP, ICAR, New Delhi**

TNAU has been awarded the Institutional Development Plan under National Agricultural Higher Education Project for a period of three years from 2019 – 20 by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi. The total budget for the project is Rupees 30 Crores, of which the Indian Council for Agricultural Research, New Delhi provided 25 crores. The National Agricultural Higher Education Project is implemented by Indian Council for Agricultural Research, New Delhi since 2017 – 18. Since TNAU did not have ICAR accreditation for UG programmes and colleges during 2017 – 18, it was not able to get this project in the first year of implementation. However, NDRI, Karnal and seven State Agricultural Universities were selected in the first year.

After assuming Vice Chancellor office by Prof. Dr. N. Kumar, through his sustained efforts began fulfilling many criteria laid for Accreditation and ICAR granted accreditation for UG programmes and colleges from 2018 -19 onwards. This has enabled TNAU to compete at National level among 64 State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) for getting this project. Among the State Agricultural Universities only five SAUs were granted this project in the second year of implementation and TNAU has among the one.

This project will be implemented in nine colleges of TNAU covering six UG programmes. It focuses on strengthening the learner centric environment by adopting innovative pedagogy and academic reforms, promoting student faculty diversity, competence, entrepreneurship, skill development and international outlook and improving education management by leveraging alumni network, technology and partnership. During the project period, TNAU scientists and students will be exposed to different foreign universities in order to learn and exchange researchable ideas and issues.

The overall output is to improve the employability of graduates from Tamil Nadu Agricultural University by enabling them to get better jobs in private sector with higher remuneration and become entrepreneurs.

Public Relations Officer