



Tamil Nadu Agricultural University

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To
The Editor,

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Sir,

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

TNAU remembers eternal memories of the martyrs and scientists contribution to the Nation during the 75th Independence Day Celebrations

Dr. N. Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU) hoisted the national flag during the 75th Independence Day celebration today (15th August, 2021) and delivered Independence Day address. During his speech, he recalled the eternal memories of the martyrs, who sacrificed their lives for new lease of life. India has made tremendous progress since then in the fields of agriculture, education, infrastructure, science & technology, space exploration, sanitation, food security etc., As a result, scientific innovations have placed India at the third rank among the most attractive investment destinations for technology transactions in the world.

TNAU played pivotal role in the Tamil Nadu Agriculture. TNAU expertise and research in all fields of Agriculture and Horticulture particularly Biotechnology, Nanotechnology, Remote Sensing, Food Technology, Precision Farming, High Density Planting methods *etc.*, evolve new technologies which are very much useful for our farmers to generate more income. TNAU has released 581 crop varieties, 104 technologies and 57 agricultural implements and machineries to increase agricultural production. TNAU have made efforts to bring Tamil Nadu as top among the States in the productivity of major crops like Maize (1st rank), Sugar cane (1st rank), Rice (2nd rank), Groundnut (2nd rank) and Jowar (3rd rank). Even during Covid-19 lockdown period, all agricultural activities were carried out throughout the state without any break. The stake holders and the farmers of Tamil Nadu did not let our State suffer from the problem of food and drink.

During the pandemic situation, TNAU conducted the classes examinations and final viva voice are conducted through virtual mode and helped the students community to complete the degree programme in time. COVID Vaccination camps were arranged for all staffs, students and also for pensioners. Further, he appreciated the scientists and students who have toiled hard to bring up TNAU at 8th position in the ICAR ranking. Further, he informed that the number of ICAR Junior research Fellows was increased to 83 during 2019-20 from 6 in 2015-16 and 23 students have secured INSPIRE fellowships for doing Ph.D in various disciplines at TNAU. Six students

comprising of 2 M.Sc., and 3 Ph.D., in Plant Pathology and One Ph.D in Plant Biotechnology have been selected under MITACS programme sponsored by Indo-Canadian Shastri Institute, New Delhi. This demonstrates that the TNAU serves as a hub for agricultural education and research and most preferred destination for many students.

TNAU also nurtures co-curricular and extra-curricular activities of students. He congratulated Ms.N.B. Subiksha, II B.Tech., (Horticulture) student of HC&RI, TNAU, Coimbatore who has obtained the title “The Wonder Classical Dancer” for her non-stop dancing for 7 hours on 29-6-2021.

Besides education, research outcome of TNAU had reached the entire Country and admired by few other Countries as well. The outcome of research from TNAU has a much impact on the socio – economic status of Tamil Nadu Farmers. The gross value of outputs from TNAU crop varieties, technologies and machineries is estimated at Rs.27542 crores in 2018-19. Incremental income due to the adoption of TNAU crop varieties, technologies and machineries is Rs.10433 crores per annum (38%) of which varieties contribute Rs.5029 crores, technologies contribute Rs.4863 crores and machineries with Rs.541 crores.

The present State Government is keen in improving the livelihood of farmers by proposing a special Agricultural Budget for which TNAU has to work hand in hand with the Agriculture Department to bring a new dawn to the farmers. Government of Tamil Nadu in its 1st Agricultural Budget has highlighted importance of bringing fallow land of 11.75 lakh hectare under cultivation, promoting rainfed agriculture in 3 lakh acres and stressing the importance of organic farming or natural farming with subsidies on organic inputs which are very novel programme. Wherein, TNAU can play a key role in synergising with development Departments.

The schemes to provide training and skill development for the young graduates while doing their studies which requires much participation by TNAU Scientists. The novel programme of protecting the State tree of Palmyrah and a scheme to support 76 lakh seeds and 1 lakh seedlings to the farming community on free of cost deserves appreciation and warrants much participation of TNAU centres particularly functioning in the Southern Districts i.e., Sivagangai, Thoothukudi, Ramnad etc. The new announcement of starting of an exclusive Research Centre for Turmeric at Bhavanisagar and Nammalvar Organic Research Centre at Coimbatore, besides to start Tamil medium in B.Sc (Ag) and B.Sc (Hort.) degree programmes deserves appreciation and TNAU staff should devote much energy and time to implement these programmes in stipulated time.

He appreciated the services of University Doctors, Nurses, Pharmacists and Sanitary workers during this COVID’19 pandemic situation.

During the occasion, Dr. N. Kumar, Honorable Vice Chancellor, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore declared the top three winners of the poster and video making competition during the Independence Day function. The winners are awarded with cash prizes.

WINNERS OF VIDEO MAKING COMPETITION

NAME OF THE STUDENT	NAME OF THE COLLEGE/ PI	RANK	PRIZE MONEY
Munibhagyala Kalyan	Sastra Deemed University, Thanjavur	I	Rs. 10,000
Sri Jaya Durga R D	Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women, Coimbatore	II	Rs. 6,000
Gayatri.R.V	Sri Krishna College Of Technology, Coimbatore	III	Rs. 2,500

WINNERS OF POSTER MAKING COMPETITION

The University Officers, Heads of Departments, Scientists and Staff of TNAU campus

NAME OF THE STUDENT	NAME OF THE COLLEGE/ PI	RANK	PRIZE MONEY
S. Keerthivassan	PSG College of Technology, Coimbatore	I	Rs. 4,000
S. Shobika	Sri GVG Visalakshi college for Women (Autonomous) Udumalpet, Thiruppur	II	Rs. 2,500
S. Shalini	Valluvar College of Science and Management, Karur	III	Rs. 1,500

participated in the celebration.

Public Relations Officer