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The Editor,
Sir,

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

Hackathon in Bioinformatics at TNAU, Coimbatore

Centre for Plant Molecular Biology & Biotechnology, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore organized a one-day event on"Hackathon in Bioinformatics" at TNAU on 10th March, 2023.The event was conducted to bring young talented minds to focus on solving identified problem statements in bioinformatics. The students 58 teams were participated in this hackathon and 15 teams were shortlisted for presenting their ideas in this event.

In this event inaugural session, Dr. N. Senthil, Dean, School of Post Graduate Studies (SPGS) & Director, Centre for Plant Molecular Biology & Biotechnology, TNAU in opening remarks, he mentioned about the programme schedule of the Hackathon event. He also explained the importance of Interned of things and sequencing methods in agriculture / clinical study. He emphasized on metabolomics and genomics study, its integration with bioinformatics. The metabolomic facility is established under Centre if Excellence in Biotechnology in CPMB&B and floor space is available for young entrepreneurs to venture their novel ideas. The vision of Vice-Chancellor of TNAU is to promote the students to become job provides rather that job seekers, he added.

Dr.R.TamizhVendan, Registrar, TNAU in his inaugural address mentioned about skill development programme for igniting the young minds to take up entrepreneurship and come out with novel products that are useful to the farming community.

Earlier, Dr. E. Kokila Devi, Professor & Head, Department of Plant Biotechnology, CPMB&B, TNAU, Coimbatore welcomed the gathering. Finally, Dr. Arul, Professor & Chief Coordinator, E-YUVA Centre, CPMB&B, TNAU proposed a formal vote of thanks.

In continuation of this event, the invited talks have given by Ms. U. Sathvika, Manager (Bioinformatics), Dept. of Applied Informatics, Sandor Specialty Diagnostics, Hyderabadin her guest lecture on "bioinformatics in clinical genomics and medical

genomics" in which she explained about the computational pipeline for sequencing and identification of variants. The application of bioinformatics in clinical research includes cancer research, identification of causal factors for complex / rare diseases reproductive health screening inherited diseases.

Ms. S. Shanmugapriya, Team Lead, Molecular Connections, Bengaluru in her guest lecture gave a brief information on preprint mining, biochemical interaction of proteins and drugs biochemical reaction, biomarker and pathway analysis.

Dr. D. Surendran, Sri Kanda Shrishti Skill Fasteners Pvt. Ltd., Chennai delivers a lecture on Internet of Things (IoT), its growth pros and cons, applications in various fields including farming, company management, clinical monitoring and security.

The shortlisted 15 teams of students presented their novel ideals on tools for deducting plant diseases, nutrients sensing and monitoring to deduct food toxins and archives of insect gut microbiome. Three teams were selected as best idea in this hackathon. The first prize (cash prize of Rs.15,000) was awarded to the students of Bannari Amman Institute of Technology, Sathyamangalam' for the idea of "A systematic model designed with IoT to monitor cold supply chain", second prize (Cash prize of Rs. 10,000) to the students of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore for the idea 'Predicting the properties of insecticides using machine learning' and third prize (Cash prize of Rs.5,000) to the students of St. Joseph College of Engineering, Chennai for the idea of "Nutrient NPK sensing and monitoring system".

Dr. N. Senthil, Director of Centre for Plant Molecular Biology & Biotechnology, TNAU awarded the prizes to the winners.

Public Relations Officer