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The Editor,

Sir,

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

## TNAU Trains Scientists on "Recent Advances in Biocatalysts for Biomass Derived Renewable Chemicals"

TNAU's department of Agricultural Microbiology is organizing an ICAR sponsored Centre of Advanced faculty training on "Recent advances in Biocatalysts for Biomass derived renewable chemicals" for 21 days from 15.12.2023 to 04.01.2024. The training was inaugurated by Dr.R.Thamizh Vendan, Registrar, TNAU on 15.12.2023. Dr. T. Kalaiselvi, Professor & Head (Incharge) gave the welcome speech and briefed about the various departmental activities and about the training concept. After the self introduction by the participants from across the country, the training Manual was released by the Registrar.

Dr.P.Balasubramaniam, Director, Natural Resource Management felicitated the function; in his special address, he appraised the efforts taken to conduct CAFT training program and briefed about the role of microbial enzymes in conversion of plant derived biomass and also highlighted the various facilities available in this department. Followed by, the inaugural address was given by the Registrar, TNAU. He recalled the long legacy of the University in conducting CAFT programmes as early in 1980s. He mainly addressed the issues in burning of biomass which would result in pollution by way of producing aerosols, particulate matter and obnoxious gases. Stating that India is next to China in biomass burning, he emphasized the need to educate farmers on value addition of biomass such as corn, sugarcane and vegetable oil to bio-products. He made a note on various products like bioethanol, biodiesel and citric acid which were derived from plant and microbial biomass. Finally he congratulated the participants for choosing the right topic that would be a game changer towards a clean, green and sustainable future. Professor and Head from SS & AC, ENS, PHTC, Scientists of this Department and Directorate, Students and Research Fellows were also participated and graced the function.

**Public Relations Officer**