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To
The Editor,
Sir,

Date: 01.08.2026

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

**From Lab to Launch: COXBIT Inspires Young Minds in Biotechnology
Entrepreneurship**

The Centre of Excellence in Biotechnology (COXBIT), Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU), in collaboration with the Centre for Plant Molecular Biology and Biotechnology (CPMB&B), organized a distinguished guest lecture on "From Academic Research to Startup Journey: My Perspective" on 1 August 2026 at the Online Academy Hall, Dean (SPGS), TNAU, Coimbatore. As part of its commitment to fostering innovation-driven entrepreneurship and strengthening the biotechnology startup in Tamil Nadu. The under graduates of B. Tech (Biotechnology) (120 Nos.) were attended this lecture. The keynote address was delivered by Dr. Jithesh Vijayan Ph.D, Founder, NeerPaasi Carbon Solutions, Coimbatore, shared his entrepreneurial journey from academic research to establishing a successful technology-based enterprise.

During the lecture, Dr. Jithesh Vijayan emphasized the key stages involved in commercializing research through prototype development, technology validation, industry collaboration, business model formulation, market validation, investment readiness and enterprise scaling. He highlighted essential entrepreneurial competencies such as opportunity identification, startup methodology, business model innovation, technology readiness assessment, risk management, and strategic planning.

The programme witnessed enthusiastic participation from B.Tech. Biotechnology students, actively interacted with the speaker by raising questions on entrepreneurship, startup development, funding opportunities, technology commercialization, and career prospects in biotechnology. Dr. Jithesh Vijayan guided the students on pursuing Direct Ph.D. programmes in United States of America, building research-oriented careers, and exploring entrepreneurship alongside higher

education. He also briefed the participants on the various research, startup incubation, and funding opportunities available for biotechnology graduates. The session also covered startup funding opportunities, including government grants, seed funding, angel investment, venture capital, incubator and accelerator programmes and the importance of intellectual property protection and investor-ready business proposals.

Earlier, Dr. V. Rajanbabu, Assistant Professor, Department of Plant Biotechnology, TNAU, Coimbatore welcomed the gathering. Dr. N. Senthil, Director Centre for Plant Molecular Biology and Biotechnology and Centre of Excellence in Biotechnology, delivered special address. Finally, Dr. K. Hemaprabha, Associate Professor, Department of Plant Biotechnology, TNAU, Coimbatore proposed vote of thanks. Centre for Plant Molecular Biology and Biotechnology and COXBIT team coordinated this event.

Public Relations Officer