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To
The Editor,
Sir,

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

International Academic Representatives Visit COXBIT to Explore PPP-Driven Research and Technology Commercialisation

Prof. Song Ki Won, Director, Institute of Educational Innovation, Department of Medical IT Engineering, Konyang University, Seo-gu, Daejeon, Republic of Korea, and Dr. S. Thangavelu, Chairman, Sri Shakthi Institute of Engineering and Technology (Autonomous), Coimbatore, visited the Centre of Excellence in Biotechnology (COXBIT), Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore.

Dr. M. Raveendran, Registrar and Acting Vice-Chancellor, TNAU, elaborated on the research activities being carried out across various departments of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University. He highlighted the diverse research programmes, technological innovations and opportunities for collaboration with industries and other institutions.

During the visit, Prof. Song Ki Won and Dr. S. Thangavelu interacted with companies associated with COXBIT and gained insights into their research, technology development and innovation activities. Home Idea Technologies presented its work on AI-based product development for voice-assisted educational applications. The founder explained the development of AI-enabled solutions aimed at supporting educational applications through voice-assisted technologies. Nithilam Tech presented its work on crop advisory solutions using Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning, along with drone-based image analysis for agriculture. The company explained its technology development activities involving AI/ML models for analysing agricultural images and supporting crop-related decision-making. Coimbatore AI presented its product development activities in the fields of AI in agriculture and digital marketing, highlighting the application of artificial intelligence in developing technology-driven solutions for these sectors.

Mitti lifetek pharmax private limited, a biotechnology start-up, presented its research and development activities in molecular diagnostics for tuberculosis (TB). The team explained the technology development associated with its molecular diagnostic kit and its intended application in TB detection. The interaction demonstrated the diversity of research and innovation activities supported through the COXBIT ecosystem, covering artificial intelligence, agriculture, voice-assisted education, drone-based image analysis, digital technologies and molecular diagnostics.

Dr. N. Senthil, Director, COXBIT, TNAU, explained the objectives and activities of COXBIT and highlighted its role in strengthening Academia–Industry Connect through a Public–Private Partnership (PPP) mode. He explained that COXBIT had been established as a platform connecting academic institutions, industries, start-ups, students, researchers and innovators to facilitate collaborative research, technology development and innovation. He highlighted that COXBIT had provided laboratory infrastructure, technical expertise, incubation support and other facilities to enable the progression of innovative ideas from research and proof-of-concept development to technology validation, product development and commercialisation. Through the PPP mode, COXBIT had aimed to bridge the gap between academic research and industry requirements and facilitate the transformation of research outcomes into technology-driven and commercially viable products.

Public Relations Officer