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To
The Editor,
Sir,

Date: 25.05.2026

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

TNAU conducted Certificate Course on Sericulture

Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU) has consistently upheld its commitment to delivering quality education through innovative and inclusive learning approaches. In line with this vision, the University has been actively promoting Open and Distance Learning (ODL) programmes to extend educational opportunities to a wider section of learners. Among these initiatives, the Certificate Course on Sericulture has emerged as a highly impactful programme, contributing significantly to skill development, employment generation, and entrepreneurial advancement in the sericulture sector. The programme has so far benefited more than 1,000 candidates including the farmers, rural people, school drop-outs, unemployed youths and graduates.

The Certificate Distribution for 15th batch and Inaugural Function for 16th batch of the Certificate Course on Sericulture was jointly organized by Directorate of Open and Distance Learning (ODL), TNAU and Forest College and Research Institute (FC&RI) at FC&RI, Mettupalayam. The event brought together university leadership, faculty, and learners to celebrate the achievements of the outgoing batch and welcome incoming participants. The program opened with institutional addresses highlighting the transformative role of distance education and entrepreneurial training in the agricultural sector.

Dr. C. Babu, Dean (School of Postgraduate Studies), TNAU, delivered the presidential address, emphasizing the integration of entrepreneurship in modern education and encouraging learners to utilize the flexibility of Open and Distance Learning (ODL) programs

for professional advancement. Dr. P. Balasubramaniam, Director (ODL), TNAU, delivered the inaugural address, sharing successful case studies from TNAU's 44 distance learning courses and motivating the new cohort to drive innovation in rural and agricultural domains. Dr. A. Balasubramanian, Dean (Forestry), FC&RI, offered the felicitation address, detailing the commercial scope of sericulture and the technical and mentorship support available through institutional incubation centers to help students transition into viable business owners.

The function progressed as Dr. K.A. Muruges, Professor and Head, Department of Sericulture, FC&RI, Mettupalayam, extended the welcome address, warmly receiving all participants and setting an inspirational tone for the event. A key highlight was the successful distribution of certificates to 29 exceptional candidates from the 2025 batch who successfully completed the certificate course. Among these accomplished learners, three outstanding performers were recognized and awarded based on their exceptional marks in the course, setting benchmarks of excellence for future participants. The program culminated with the orientation and inauguration of the incoming 2026 batch, comprising 60 enthusiastic participants, marking an exciting new chapter with fresh learners ready to embark on their sericulture education journey. Finally, the vote of thanks was proposed by Dr. S. Susikaran, Assistant Professor (Sericulture), Directorate of ODL acknowledging the collaborative efforts that support the institution's mission to foster agro-entrepreneurship and educational excellence.

Public Relations Officer