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To
The Editor,
Sir,

Date: 12.01.2026

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

TNAU conducts Endowment Lecture on “Space Tech for Soil Health: NISAR & TRISHNA Satellites’ Data for Soil Studies”

To create awareness on the application of space technology for soil health studies among the scientists and students, an Endowment Lecture on “Space Tech for Soil Health: NISAR & TRISHNA Satellites’ Data for Soil Studies” was organised by the Department of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry, DNRM, TNAU, Coimbatore on 09.01.2026 jointly with School of Post Graduate Studies. Dr. D. Selvi, Professor and Head, Department of SS&AC welcomed the gathering and delivered the opening remarks for the Endowment Lecture. In the inaugural address, Dr. C. Babu, Dean (SPGS) insisted the importance of interdisciplinary research for soil health improvement. Dr.P.Balasubramaniam, Director (DNRM) introduced the speaker Dr. D. Gowrisankar, Director, Office of International & Interagency Cooperation, Indian Space Research Organisation, Department of Space, Government of India, Bengaluru and elucidated about the speaker’s commendable contribution in coordinating ISRO’s international cooperation – leading bilateral and multilateral engagements, facilitating space cooperation treaties and collaborations, expanding ISRO’s global footprint. He has contributed to drafting aspects of India’s national space policy as a member of key ISRO/Department of Space committees and he was awarded with ISRO Merit Award -2018.

Dr. D. Gowrisankar in his lecture deliberated the advantages of using satellite remote sensing for soil characterization. He has explained about various satellite sensors such as multispectral, hyperspectral, radar, and thermal sensors utility in assessing soil texture, moisture, organic carbon content, salinity, and degradation. He has narrated the details of two important international cooperative missions of ISRO viz., NISAR and TRISHNA and their application for studying soil properties. He also provided the details of other satellites specifically designed for studying soils. Dr. K. Sathiya Bama, Professor (SS&AC) & PG Coordinator, Dept. of SS&AC proposed the Vote of Thanks.

Public Relations Officer