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To
The Editor,

Date: 6-1-2015

Sir,

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

**Farmers to adopt Noval Technologies in Era of Changing Climate – says,
TNAU Vice-Chancellor**

Southern Regional Agricultural Fair and State Level Farmers' Day 2015 was inaugurated on Jan.6, 2015 with the theme of Profitable and Sustainable agriculture. Farmers from Southern States viz Tamil Nadu, Seemandra, Telengana, Karnataka, Kerala and Union territories Puduchery participated in the fair.

In the inaugural function held at Convocation Hall, TNAU Dr. K.A. Ponnusamy, Director of Extension Education welcomed the gathering. A video on Hitech Banana cultivation was shown to the farmers.

Dr. O.P. Dhahiya, Director, Farm Information, Ministry of Agriculture, New Delhi in his special address emphasized that extension services in India has been strengthened and the ministry pays special attention to technology transfer to farmers through trainings, Regional Melas, publications, Exhibitions, Production of video films. National Extension service in cooperation with the state extension wing has brought phenomenal increase in agricultural development and in turn income of farmers.

Dr. K. Ramasamy, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU in his presidential address reiterated that regional fairs are organized with the objective that farmers get to know the technologies and scientists and extension workers get to know what is to be done in future. In India Agricultural research is being done with only 1% of the total funds spent on research, Though 11 districts in last year and 31 districts in penultimate year have been declared as drought hit, still Tamil Nadu has produced 113 lakhs metric tonnes of food grains. High yielding Co 8 Green gram with duration of 55 days with 2 irrigation have been evolved to combat drought and Tamil Nadu ranks first in pulse production and achieve protein revolution. Software engineers and IT professional are turning towards agriculture. Farmers should regularly visit the fields and successful farmers should spread the message to other farmers. In the era of changing foods and climate, technological revolution should reach the farmers for their betterment.

Mr. C. Rajendran, Joint Secretary, Dept. of Agriculture, Tamil Nadu Government in his inaugural address emphasized that doubling the productivity and tripling the income is the motto of the Agriculture department and Government of Tamil Nadu. Through we can like without phones, cigarette and drink the industrialists involved in their production are rich but we cannot live without food. Still farmers involved in food production are still poor. Hence, the State Government aims to promote welfare schemes for farmers and it turn they should utilize the scheme and take technologies in soil, crops and water management from the University which strives hard for the welfare of farmers. He said that horticultural crops could fetch high income and Tamil Nadu stands first in India in Banana production and reports of 165 tonnes / ha of Banana is achieved in Tamil Nadu. Only when farmers attain success, India can become super power. Tamil Nadu has won Krishi Karman award twice, Agriculture today and India today awards for better agricultural production. He also added that value addition and orage facilities for produce are to be given emphasis by the Government in years to come which should be properly utilized by farmers. He also appreciated the concerted efforts taken by the Vice-Chancellor, TNAU for his selfless service to the farming community and adjudged as best among the 32 SAU Vice-Chancellors in the country. Such continued steps taken by the University, State Government and Dept. of Agriculture will help the first ever occupation done by human to reach its zenith and make Tamil Nadu as Agricultural hub of the world.

Earlier, Mr. A. Ramakrishnan, Asst. Director of Horticulture, Coimbatore, Mr. S. Sankaran, Executive Engineer, Agricultural Engineering Department, Coimbatore, Mr. V. Vincent Manoharan, Joint Director of Agriculture, Coimbatore, Dr. S.E.S.A. Kadhar, Project Coordinator and Head, CICR, Coimbatore, Dr. Bakshiram, Director, Sugarcane Breeding Institute, Mr. M. Radhakrishnan, Director, Seed Certification and Organic Certification and Mr. Shanmugasundaram, Member, Board of Management, TNAU offered their felicitation.

They reiterated use of novel technologies like high density planting, precision farming, green house cultivation, farm mechanism and use of solar energy and integrated farm management for increasing the crop productivity. They also called upon the scientists to take up research pertaining to the problems faced by the farmers.

Earlier the exhibition on various technologies was declared open for the benefit of farmers. The function culminated with formal vote of thanks by Dr. M. Maheswaran, Director of Research, TNAU, Coimbatore.

Public Relations Officer