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To  
The Editor,

Date: 16-11-2018

Sir,

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

**Professor Dr. N. Kumar the new Vice-Chancellor of TNAU**

Dr. N. Kumar, born on 29th June, 1955 at Kadukkarai Village of Kanyakumari District obtained his B.Sc.( Hort.), M.Sc.(Ag.) and Ph.D.(Hort.) with distinct academic and service records. During his studies and services, he has bagged a total of Two Fellowships from ICAR, Five Gold Medals and Nine Medals.

He has a rich professional experience of 36 years and 6 months including 36 years of Research, Teaching, Extension, Farm management and various Administrative posts. He was the Dean (Horticulture) of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU), Coimbatore from July 2009 to June 2013.

He has published 8 text books, written chapters in 14 edited books, published 52 International Research papers, 83 National Research papers. Three of his Text books in Horticulture serve as important reference for the students for preparing for civil service exam by UPSC.

He has guided so far 21 M.Sc. (Hort.) and 13 Ph.D. students and two of his Ph.D., students obtained prestigious ICAR Jawaharlal Nehru Award. He was instrumental for obtaining 20 Externally Funded Projects including 6 from International Institutes/Agencies worth Rs. 457 lakhs and served as the Principal Investigator of these schemes. He has associated in the release of 15 improved cultivars in Horticultural crops and developed many improved technologies including fertigation and High Density Planting Techniques in fruit crops like banana, papaya and mango, which formed the basis for launching the Precision Farming Scheme by Tamil Nadu Government.

He has attended 18 International symposiums and more than 50 National seminars and meetings and presented research papers. As Organising Secretary, he has organized 17 National and 3 International events.

He has visited 15 foreign countries viz., Israel, Thailand, Germany, Brazil, UK, Malaysia, China, South Africa, Bangladesh, Kenya, Tanzania, Sri Lanka, USA, Turkey and Ethiopia to attend various International Symposiums and other events.

Developed MoU with two foreign Universities viz., Savannah University, Georgia, USA and Leibniz University, Hannover, Germany and has been active member in several professional bodies / societies, including the Fellow of Horticulture Society of India, New Delhi.

After his retirement, he has taken up assignments as

- Member, Quiennial Review Team, ICAR, Central Institute for Arid Horticulture, Bikaner and ICAR- AICRP on Arid zone Fruit Crops, ICAR, New Delhi
- Expert, for accreditation and rating of nurseries, National Horticulture Board, Gurgaon, Haryana Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, GOI
- Member, Research Advisory Committee, ICAR- National Research Centre for Banana, Trichirapalli
- Member, Research Advisory Committee, ICAR- Central Plantation Crop Research Institute, Kasargode, Kerala
- Horticulture Consultant, Afforestation and Greenbelt Project, Coastal Energen Power plant, Tuticorin

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