

Tamil Nadu Agricultural University Coimbatore – 641 003

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The Editor,

Sir,

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

Cherishing the minds with awareness...

(Day 2 and Day 3 of TNAU NSS Camp)

The glorious Day 2 (28-05-2019) of NSS Special Camp, 2019 organised by the dynamic II year NSS volunteers (122 boys and 250 girls) of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore began with 'BLOOD DONATION' and 'EYE CHECKUP CAMP'. The Rotary club organised the life saving activity supported by Tulasi pharmacy. Dr.T.K.Ganesan along with five staff members felicitated the camp. Around 24 NSS volunteers were allowed to donate their blood after complete health check up. The Eye camp was conducted by Dr. Fedrick, Dr. Roshini and Dr. Sakthi (Vasan Eye Care). An introductory speech was given about the eye related problemsto create awareness among the Village people. Nearly 50 people were benefited by this master eye check up.

As a continuation, there was a guest lecture on mushroom cultivation by Dr.K.Thirubuvanamala, Associate Professor (Plant Pathology), TNAU, Coimbatore. She elucidated the method of mushroom cultivation more efficiently by live demonstration which included the means and ways by which it can be cultivated and converted into a profitable business, which was very much helpful for the members of the locality. As the saying on parthenium goes, "One year of seeding leads to seven years of weeding", fiery NSS volunteers participated in a rally around 6:00pm at Thottipalyam to thrust the requisite of removing the noxious weed parthenium.

They also elucidated the farmers and village people about the yield loss due to parthenium and its health hazards like skin allergy and asthma. Pamphlets were distributed to the village people.

On the 3rd day of NSS Special camp (29-05-2019), NSS volunteers have organised the Road Safety Awareness Programme at Samanaikkanpalayam which was conducted by Mr. Vinayagamoorthy, Road safety trainer, Coimbatore city traffic who stressed the very importance of "Road and safety protocol" in our daily life. He amused the crowd with his mind blowing games which also simultaneously enhanced our knowledge on road safety.

As a continuation, Dr. K. Guru Meenakshi, Assistant Professor, Post Harvest Technology Centre, TNAU, Coimbatore shared her knowledge about the 'Value addition of fruits and vegetables'. She emphasized on the importance of tropical fruits and their value addition. She stressed the importance of dietary nutrition on enquiring about the health conditions of the children who attended the programme. She gave a glimpse about the chemicals used in ripening the fruits and the impacts on junk foods consumption.

The evening session began with the rally on 'Environment conservation and abolition of Plastic usage' at Samanaikkanpalayam. It was followed by a programme on 'Demonstration on Soil and water sampling' by Dr. M. Gopalakrishnan, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry, TNAU, Coimbatore.

Later, a special address was given by Ms. Malarmangai, NSS trainer, Avinasilingam University, Coimbatore. She made the NSS volunteers to realize the privilege of being a NSS volunteer. She filled the hearts and minds of people that National Service Scheme means to create Personality development through community service and mutual compliments. The programme ended with vote of thanks by the NSS volunteer.

Public Relations Officer