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To
The Editor,

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Sir,

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

**TNAU celebrates 50th Foundation Day and
Launching of Golden Jubilee Year**

The 50th Foundation Day and launching of Golden Jubilee year of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University were held on 01.06.2021 through virtual mode. Thiru.M.R.K. Panneerselvam, Honourable Minister for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare and Pro Chancellor of TNAU participated as chief guest and launched the Golden Jubilee year celebrations. Honourable Minister for Agriculture and Farmers' welfare in his Foundation day address emphasized the importance of TNAU in agriculture sector of the country. He applauded the TNAU graduates who are in different hierarchial positions in both private and public sector to serve the public and especially to the farming communities. During his speech, he shared his farming experience, the particularly usage of TKM and ADT rice varieties of TNAU. Further, he indicated the importance of the development of new varieties, technologies by TNAU for increasing the farm productivity, income and improved food production in the State. Further he insisted the TNAU scientists to continue the new research in frontier areas which suits to the farmer oriented technologies in various crops in order to help the farmers to get higher monetary benefit and also to increase the productivity for the betterment of the farming community.

Earlier, Dr. A.S. Krishnamoorthy, Registrar, TNAU, welcomed the gathering and informed that this University started as a School as early as 1868 at Saidapet, Madras and moved to Coimbatore during 1906 and later transformed as a State Agricultural University on 01.06.1971.

Dr. N. Kumar, Vice-chancellor in his address recollected the glimpses of TNAU over 50 years and transformation of the University to its current status in all dimensions and

has become a University of Global Eminence. TNAU has so far developed 26,101 Under Graduate, 10897 Master's and 3324 Doctoral Graduates who serve the country and globe in various spheres. The University has released 581 crop varieties and 57 agricultural implements and machineries and perfected more than 1500 crop production technologies since the formation of University. TNAU had been pioneer among the SAUs in establishing a Gene Bank which presently hold 22,000 plant genetic resources. So far, TNAU distributed coconut tonic to an area of 1,48,245 acres, Pulse wonder for 1,98,068 acres, Groundnut Rich and, Cotton Plus for about 10,000 acres each. Tamil Nadu conferred of Krishi Karman Award five times in a period of seven years as a testimony of the combined efforts of the University with the State Agriculture Department in terms of foodgrains, pulses, cereal and oilseeds production.

Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra, Secretary (DARE) & Director General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi appreciated the TNAU's achievements in setting an example to all other agricultural institutions of the country. He applauded TNAU act as very high performing centre by receiving 62 research projects with annual budget of 78 crores from ICAR which is highest among all state agricultural universities in India. TNAU is one of the forefronts of global rice research and done pivotal role rice breeding and development and discovery of new genes. He emphasized on commercialization of nano products, agricultural machineries and micro irrigation with sensors and automation, digital learning and robotics as areas to be concentrated in future agriculture. He recalled the TNAU Alumunus Prof. Dr.M.S. Swaminathan for his remarkable contributions to the Indian agriculture especially during Green revolution.

Thiru.C.Samayamoorthy, IAS, Agricultural Production Commissioner & Secretary to Government of Tamil Nadu in his address, lauded the University contribution to surpass the state food grain production to 100 lakh tonnes from 50 lakh tonnes during 1971.

As part of the ceremony, Dr.M.Ramasami, Chairman & Founder, Rasi Seeds Pvt. Ltd, Attur felicitated the gathering and insisted on collobarative research through public private partnership mode for maize and cotton to fullfil the requirement of poultry and tecxtile industries. Finally, Dr. K.S. Subramaniam, Director of Research, TNAU proposed a vote of thanks.

Public Relations Officer