



**Tamil Nadu Agricultural University**  
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To  
The Editor,  
Sir,

Date: 04.10.2023

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

### **TNAU RKVY - RAFTAAR-R-ABI Grant disbursement for startups**

ABIS - Technology Business Incubator, DABD, TNAU, Coimbatore is a RKVY-RAFTAAR-R-ABI centre for implementing RKVY RAFTAAR R ABI programme from 2019 onwards. Under this RKVY-R-ABI two programmes viz., (i) Agripreneurship Orientation Programme (AOP) for a grant upto 5 lakhs and (ii) Startup Agribusiness Incubation Program (SAIP) ) for a grant upto 25 lakhs are conducted from 2019-2020 onwards. The MoA & FW has sanctioned 70 startups with a grant of Rs.8.10 Crores from 2019 onwards through four Cohorts.

The grant disbursement function was held at ABIS-TBI-RABI Centre, DABD, TNAU, Coimbatore on October 3rd, 2023. Prof.Dr.V.Geethalakshmi, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU presided over the function and distributed the grant. A grant amount of Rs.9.60 lakhs for 5 Cohort II AOP Grantees and Rs.68.80 lakhs for 9 Cohort II SAIP Grantees were disbursed as second instalment. A grant amount of Rs.23.80 lakhs was given for 13 cohort III AOP Grantees as second Installment and Rs.70.00 lakhs as first installment for 9 Cohort III SAIP Grantees. In Cohort IV, a grant of Rs.26.70 for 11 AOP Grantees and Rs.81.60 for 10 SAIP grantees Lakhs were given as first Intallment. In total, Rs 2.80 Crores were given to 58 grantees of cohort II, III, IV.

Prof. Dr.V.Geethalakshmi, Vice-Chancellor in her presidential speech emphasized the need for retaining the youth in Agriculture and to support agri based startups to innovate and implement new technologies for sustainable and profitable agribusiness.

Dr.E.Somasundaram, Director, ABD welcomed the gathering in the presence of Thiru.M.Shafi Ahmed, PA (Agri) to District Collector, Coimbatore, Thiru K Perumalsamy, Deputy Director, Department of Agri Business and Agri Marketing, University Officers, and Grantees.Mr.A.V.Gnansambandam, ED & CEO-ABIS, offered the vote of thanks.

The disbursed grant will be used by the grantees for the development of products and upscaling of their startups in agri and allied ventures.

**Public Relations Officer**