



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

Date: 12.04.2023

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

**TNAU embarks to generate Corpus fund**

Corpus fund is considered as the capital of educational organizations and kept for its sustenance and promotion of quality research. Alumni and other stakeholders of leading Universities consider it as a pride to contribute to the corpus fund. Dr. V. Geethalakshmi, Vice Chancellor, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore took initiatives to generate Corpus Fund to augment its educational, research and extension programs. Appreciating this initiative, Government of Tamil Nadu announced its generous contribution of Rs. 100 Crores in the recent agricultural budget 2023 - 24. In response, TNAU has initiated massive fund-raising programs for mobilizing matching grants from TNAU alumni and various organizations,

Mr. R. Pancharatnam, son of Late Dr. K. Ramaiah, a pioneer rice breeder of TNAU and recipient of Padma Shri (1957) and Padma Bhushan (1970) awards and his family came forward to contribute Rs. Five Crores to TNAU Corpus Fund for promoting quality research. Dr. K. Ramaiah, globally renowned Indian rice breeder, rendered 24 years (1914 – 1938) of service at Paddy Breeding Station of TNAU, the first established Rice Research Station in India during 1912. A rice variety GEB 24 (Kitchili samba) bred by Dr. Ramaiah has been used as a progenitor for developing 83 rice varieties across the globe. In memory of Dr. Ramaiah, TNAU has already established its own crop germplasm repository “Ramaiah Gene Bank” during 2009.

Dr. V. Geethalakshmi, Vice Chancellor, TNAU profusely thanked Dr. Ramaiah’s family for their contribution. The amount will be maintained in the TNAU Corpus Fund and interest accrued will be utilized to foster innovative research and nurture young talents. Vice Chancellor further added that TNAU will take intensive efforts to grow the TNAU corpus fund for strengthening the academic, research and extension activities of TNAU.

**Public Relations Officer**