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The Editor,

Sir,

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

## TNAU conducts Refresher course for Plant Biotechnology Faculty

TNAU inaugurates a week-long refresher course for faculty members in Plant Biotechnology, Centre for Plant Molecular Biology and Biotechnology. The course is to be held from 27<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> august 2024. Aimed to enhance the teaching skills of the academic staff of the constituent colleges of TNAU, ensuring that they stay updated with the latest advancements in their respective fields. The program, curated by the Department of Plant Biotechnology, witnessed the participation of over 14 faculty members from various constituent colleges, creating a dynamic environment for learning and exchange of ideas.

The event was inaugurated by Dr. Venkatesa Palanichamy, Dean (Agriculture), who delivered an insightful keynote address on the importance of continuous professional development for educators. In his speech, he emphasized the need for faculties to adapt to the rapidly evolving academic landscape and incorporate innovative teaching methods to foster better student engagement.

Dr. N. Senthil, Director, Centre for Plant Molecular Biology and Biotechnology elaborated the need for such refresher courses every 3 or 4 years such that the delivery of course content is uniform among all the TNAU campuses teaching biotechnology subject. This would also harness the specialization of each faculty that can be shared among all the faculty. Dr.Kokiladevi, Professor & Head, Department of Plant Biotechnology welcomed the gathering. Dr.Arul, Professor & Head, Department of Plant Molecular Biology and Bioinformatics proposed a vote of thanks.

Participants expressed their gratitude for the opportunity to upgrade their knowledge and skills, and many commented on the value the course brought to their professional development.

Centre for Plant Molecular Biology and Biotechnology plans to continue such initiatives in the future to ensure that the faculty remains at the forefront of educational innovation, thereby contributing to the overall quality of education.