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The Editor,

Sir,

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

## TNAU inks MoA with Sherpa Biotech

The Biotech Council for Centre of Excellence in Biotechnology (COXBIT) was established in Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore. In this Centre, research and development activities will be carried out under public-private partnership mode to develop super active enzymes / biomolecules, biobased products, hormones for fruit ripening, plant growth stimulants and similar bio-inputs for the commercial benefit of farmers.

The Centre of Excellence in Biotechnology Building has been constructed with an area of 1.06 lakhs square ft, which includes knowledge and cabin space which can be occupied by start-ups, student entrepreneurs and established companies for research and development activities. The common facilities viz, conference hall, cafeteria, internet, wi-fi, instrumentation facilities etc., are accommodated in the newly constructed building.

Dr. N. Senthil, Director, Centre for Plant Molecular Biology and Biotechnology, on behalf of the Centre of Excellence in Biotechnology (COXBIT), TNAU, Coimbatore and Mr. T. Lakshminarayanan, representing M/s. Sherpa Biotech, Coimbatore, signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) on 31.07.2025 in the presence of Dr. R. Thamizh Vendan, Acting Vice-Chancellor and Registrar of TNAU for facilitating the floor space to develop their research activities.

M/s. Sherpa Biotech, a leader in imported button mushroom spawn and modern cultivation, plans to expand its research by focusing on IoT-based monitoring, stimulants, smart watering and CACing technologies. This new initiative is expected to increase mushroom production and shelf life, while also promoting agricultural development through the application of modern biotechnologies.