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To Date: 28.03.2025

The Editor,

Sir,

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

TNAU organized an Endowment Lecture" on "Sustainable Soil Management: Soil Health, Carbon Sequestration and Climate Change Mitigation"

To create awareness on the importance of soil health management in the context of climate change among the scientists and students, "Dean (SPGS) Endowment Lecture" on "Sustainable Soil Management: Soil Health, Carbon Sequestration and Climate Change Mitigation" was organised in the Department of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry, DNRM, TNAU, Coimbatore on 27.03.2025 and presided over by the Vice Chancellor, TNAU, Coimbatore. Dr. D. Selvi, Professor and Head, Department of SS&AC, TNAU, Coimbatore welcomed the gathering and delivered the opening remarks for the Endowment Lecture. Dr. P. Balasubramaniam, Director (DNRM), TNAU, Coimbatore introduced the speaker Dr. Somasundaram Jayaraman, Head and Principal Scientist, ICAR - Indian Institute of Soil and Water Conservation, Udhagamandalam, The Nilgiris, Tamil Nadu and elucidated about the speaker's commendable contribution towards natural resource management, watershed management, conservation agriculture, and sustainable soil management. He has guided 10 M.Sc. students, 4 Ph.D. scholars, and 5 Young Scientists and published more than 100 research papers in reputed national and international journals.

Dr.V.Geethalakshmi, Vice Chancellor, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore in her presidential address pointed out the importance of healthy soil and to advocate for the sustainable management of soil resources. The Vice Chancellor narrated the role of Department of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry in protecting Soil Health by creating awareness on soil health through various research and outreach activities. She highlighted the need for sustainable soil management practices in the era of climate change.

Dr. Somasundaram Jayaraman, Head and Principal Scientist, ICAR - Indian Institute of Soil and Water Conservation, Udhagamandalam deliberated on the sustainable soil management, importance, challenges, various strategies, and approaches to enhance soil health and soil organic carbon, reduce soil erosion and degradation, mitigate the climate change and improve the soil functions. He insisted about the importance of soil which not only provides food and nutritional security but also performs many ecosystem functions and services such as water purification, nutrient cycling, climate change mitigation/regulation, contaminants and pesticides retention and degradation, cleaning environment and flood prevention, and cultural heritage and aesthetic provisioning. Sustainable soil management is essential for all sectors such agriculture, forestry, fisheries, health, and allied-industrial sectors. He narrated that sustainable soil management and land degradation neutrality is always aligned with 'Sustainable Development' while taking care of soil, plant, animal and ecosystem's health. He emphasized the need for nurturing, caring, and conserving the soil for the present and future generations.

Dr. K. Sathiya Bama, Professor (SS&AC) & PG Coordinator, Dept. of SS&AC, TNAU, Coimbatore proposed the Vote of Thanks.

Public Relations Officer