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To
The Editor,

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Sir,

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

Inauguration of DST-21 days Training programme on “Geospatial Technologies”

Department of Science and Technology, Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India is keen in developing human resources in the application of geospatial technologies under Natural Resource Data Management System (NRDMS) programme. Under this programme a 21 days training programme on “Geospatial Technologies” was sponsored to Department of Remote Sensing and GIS, Directorate of Natural Resource Management, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU), Coimbatore.

Dr. V.P. Duraisami, Special Officer, Directorate of Natural Resource Management, TNAU in his presidential address told that with the advancement in Remote Sensing and development in Geographic Information System (GIS) and Global Positioning System (GPS), the applications of Geospatial Technologies in various fields have picked up greater momentum. He has also spoken about the development of aerial and space based remote sensing programme in India and it’s applications in various fields including agriculture. This will also help to develop an important database on the natural resources of our nation which will support informed decision making in various development programme and management activities. A study projects GIS market in India to grow with and Compound Annual Growth Rate of 8.19 per cent during the period 2012-16 and there is a tremendous change for human resource development which is possible by funding from Government agencies, he added.

In India the human resource development in the field of Geospatial technologies is still in the developing stage and is not matching with the demand. Keeping this in mind the

Government of India under the Department of Science and Technology (DST) is funding the National Institutes and State Universities to conduct this kind of training programme to researchers and academicians. This is the third such opportunity offered to TNAU by DST-NRDMS which is being conducted from 30th September to 20th October, 2015, he added.

Dr. R. Sivasamy, Professor and Head, Department of Remote Sensing and GIS, TNAU spoke about the training programme and about the participants. He told that Geospatial techniques encompassing Remote Sensing, Geographic Information System (GIS) and Global Positioning System (GPS) offer greater utility in monitoring and managing natural resources and environment. These technologies can be effectively used for appropriate land use land cover mapping, crop acreage and yield estimation, soil survey and mapping, land degradation mapping, soil moisture assessment, crop stress monitoring including nutrients and drought forest resource inventory, prioritizing watersheds and their management, environmental monitoring, change detection studies, etc., which in turn facilitate careful and better natural resource management. Besides generating reliable information these techniques could give near real-time data on the areas actually affected by disasters like drought, pests, diseases and flood, he added.

There are 18 participants from different national institutes and Universities and Government departments attending this training programme. They will be taught about the fundamentals of Geospatial technologies and applications and hands on training will be conducted using open source image processing and GIS software.

The course Director of the Training Dr. R. Jagadeeswaran, Assistant Professor welcomed the gathering. Dr. BalajiKannan, Assistant Professor, Department of Remote Sensing and GIS proposed a formal vote of thanks.

Asst. Public Relations Officer

