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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:

**Consultative workshop on Setting up Priorities and Functional Modalities
for Implementing Agro forestry Policy (2014)**

Agro forestry land use system combines Agriculture and Forestry components to cater the livelihood needs of the rural sector. In our country, agro forestry farmers cultivate tree crops to meet their domestic and industrial needs. In order to sustain agro forestry in our country, National Agro forestry Policy was pronounced in 2014 by the Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Agricultural Cooperation and Farmers Welfare.

To implement the objectives of the policy, a consultative workshop was organized in Forest College and Research Institute (FC&RI), Mettupalayam from Dec. 10-11, 2015. The workshop was attended by 150 participants who included scientists, rural industries, wood based industries, farmers, farmer producer organizations and NGOs.

Mr. Venketeshwara Rao, Chief General Manager, NABARD delivered the special address. He emphasized the participants to discuss different guidelines provided in the agro forestry policy and come out with practically applicable recommendations which would benefit the farmers and other stake holders.

Dr. S. Balaji, I.F.S. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Research and Education), Tamil Nadu Forest Department in his chief guest address opined that farmers would practice agro forestry only when they assured of better returns. He stressed the need to develop a market price mechanism for agro forestry and emphasized to implement the activities pertaining to agro forestry in a mission mode at the state level.

Dr. K. Ramasamy, Vice Chancellor, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University inaugurated the workshop. In his inaugural address, informed that agro forestry has the major role to play in the economic development of the country in future. He also called upon the Scientist to devise projects which would focus on the limitations and constraints faced by farmers who practice agro forestry.

Dr. K.K. Suresh, Dean (Forestry), FC&RI, Mettupalayam welcomed the gathering. Dr. K.T. Parthiban, Organizing Secretary, FC&RI, Mettupalayam proposed a formal vote of thanks.

Asst. Public Relations Officer