



Tamil Nadu Agricultural University
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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:

TNAU is Conferred with Overall Excellence Award from FICCI

Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry has instituted the ‘FICCI Higher Education Awards’ to recognise and facilitate the achievements and excellent work done by individuals and institutions in improving the quality of Higher Education in India. The awards were presented during the first “FICCI Higher Education Awards 2014” ceremony held on November 13, 2014 at New Delhi, as a part of the 10th FICCI Higher Education Summit 2014 jointly organized by India and U.K.

The **Tamil Nadu Agricultural University has been conferred with the prestigious "Overall Excellence Award"** by Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FICCI). The award is given in recognition of the efforts made by Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore in exhibiting overall excellence in the sphere of Indian Higher Education. The award was open to all public and private higher education institutions and TNAU, Coimbatore was adjudged as the best by the jury, among the 60 participating Institution.

The award was given away by Ms. Nikki Randhawa Haley, Governor of South Carolina (USA) in the presence of Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani, Hon’ble Union Minister of HRD, Mr. Greg Clark, UK’s Minister of State for Universities and Mr. Mohandas Pai, Chair, FICCI HE Committee. Dr. M. Chandrasekaran, Director (Planning and Monitoring) received the Award on behalf of TNAU.

The selection for the award was done by a high level Jury, chaired by Mr. M. Damodaran, Former Chairman SEBI, UTI and IDBI. Some of the key members of the jury included Ms. Amita Sharma, Additional Secretary, Technical Education MHRD, Government of India, Prof. M. Anandkrishnan, Chairman, BoG, IIT, Kanpur, Mr. T.V. Mohandas Pai, Chairman, Manipal Global Education Services Pvt. Ltd. and Mr. K Venkataramanan, CEO & MD, Larsen & Toubro Limited (L&T).

FICCI Overall excellence award was presented for academic merit, excellence in research and effective use of ICT tools in education, research and extension activities. Among other accolades, academic merit is evaluated by faculty training, students' placement, seminars and conferences organized and international educational partnerships. Research excellence is evaluated by TNAU's stand in the global arena on newer technologies and innovations generated, patents obtained, international and national research collaboration, quality of publications, policy support to State Government and the TOT and its impact on TNAU technologies among farmers and its spill-over effects. Besides, ICT tools being used for teaching and learning activities, online registration, extension approaches and methodologies, e-Velanmai project, e-journals and on-line library activities were also considered for the award.

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