



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 Foundation Day and Open Distance Learning Day Celebrations

45th Foundation Day and Open and Distance Learning Graduation Day were held at Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU) on July 1, 2015.

Dr. C.R. Ananda Kumar, Registrar, TNAU, Coimbatore welcomed the gathering. He appreciated TNAU for coming out with best technologies to cater the needs of farming community and also the Vice-Chancellor Dr. K. Ramasamy, for being honoured as the bet Vice-Chancellor in the country.

Dr. P. Santhy, Director, Open and Distance Learning, TNAU briefed about the B.F. (Tech) course and eligibility condition and said that totally 1250 graduates are pursuing the course and 155 farmers have passed the course. The course is meant to transform farmers into scientific farmers and entrepreneurs and consist of 6+ semesters and 120 practical classes.

Mrs. Archana Patnaik I.A.S., District Collector, Coimbatore in her presidential address appreciated the efforts of university in bringing farmers to the fore front and also the graduate turned farmers.

Dr. M.V. Muthu Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, Bharathidasan University, Trichy in his felicitation address said that supporting staff and technical personnel who do unblemished service are the lubricating oil for the smooth running of the government. He said that people are especially youth are turning as netizens but they should be good atizens for national development. He reiterated the importance of lifelong

learning in every one's life and also there should be humanity behind every success. He said that breathing is for existing and reading is for living.

Dr. K. Ramasamy, Vice-Chancellor, TNAU in his key note address expressed gratitude to the government for bringing 4 new colleges and totally 2800 farm graduates pass out every year and also need based centres of excellence spread throughout Tamil Nadu. He said that book learning and practical skill together give success. He also thanked the government for making the field level staff as permanent workers. He also requested farmers, scientists and extension workers to transform TNAU as best in global level.

Dr. M. Rajendran, Director of Agriculture, Govt. of Tamil Nadu appreciated the farmers who have got B.F. (Tech) degrees and should all the farmers through sharing of knowledge.

Thiru. Rajesh Lakhoni, I.A.S., Agricultural Production Commissioner & Secretary (Agri.), Govt. of Tamil Nadu in his foundation day address stressed the need for focused research by TNAU scientists to achieve the second green revolution for attaining target of the government doubling the productivity and tripling the income. He requested that doubling productivity of paddy and pulses and tripling the productivity of millets will help to improve the food grain production.

Dr. Ganapathy P. Rajkumar, Hon'ble Mayor, Coimbatore Corporation in his felicitation address landed that farm graduates perform well in administrative services.

Thiru. S.P. Velumani, Hon'ble Minister for Municipal Administration, Rural Development, Laws, Courts and Prisons, Govt. of Tamil Nadu said that with 21 TMC water available 4.5 lakhs acres of cropping is carried out in TNAU. Adoption of Isract technology to farmers more crops from less water is being done.

Thiru. S.P. Velumani, Hon'ble Minister for Municipal Administration, Rural Development, Laws, Courts and Prisons, Govt. of Tamil Nadu in his special address brought out the development activities of the Tamil Nadu government in bringing Coimbatore city as a model are in Tamil Nadu including construction of bridge, underground drainage, women development activities. He also brought to light the agricultural development programmes initiated by the government including inputs

distributor worth 43 crores 100% subscribed drip irrigation for small and marginal farmers and 75% subsidy for other farmers, removing the 1 acre 1 and ceiling, drought prone delta farmers were given 27 crores as compulsion to give fertilizers to farmers for increasing the production, TANFED was given 580 crores interest free advance and loan 4 colleges viz., Horticultural College for Women in Trichy and 3 Agricultural Colleges in Pudukottai, Thanjavur and Thiruvannamalai for catering to the needs of farming community development. They got Krishi Karman Award for the performance in agricultural sector in spite of constraints.

Thiru. R. Vaithilingam, Hon'ble Minister for Housing, Urban Development and Agriculture, Govt. of Tamil Nadu & Pro Chancellor of TNAU in his chief guest address said that transforming Tamil Nadu into oasis with full of agriculture is the goal of the government. Education and agriculture are the two eyes for development of any state or nation. He also spoke about the issues of interest free loan to farmers worth 5500 crores. Increasing the height up to 148 feet in Mullai Periyar Dam and free electricity to farmers, 40 crores worth inputs distribution including bio-fertilizers, gypsum, etc show the long term vision of the government in improving agriculture, back bone of India's Economy. He said that Tamil Nadu state a model state in India in various activities. 23 members were given Best Researcher, Teacher, Extension worker, College, Research Station, KVK, Seed Production Centres, NSS Programme Officer and Volunteers Awards by the dignitaries.

30 members were given awards for their unblemished meritorious service of 25 years. 155 farmers were given certificates for their graduation in Bachelor of Farm Technology in Directorate of Open and Distance Learning in TNAU.

Finally, Dr. M. Maheswaran, Director of Research, TNAU, Coimbatore proposed a formal vote of thanks.

Asst. Public Relations Officer







