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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:

AMI – 55th ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Association of Microbiologist of India was established in 1938. Being one of the reputed scientific organizations of the country, at present there are more than 4000 life and annual members and about 450 corporate members; The AMI joins hand with Springer publishers, Germanyin publishing Indian journal of Microbiology, a reputed journal publishing peer reviewed original research findings and research reviews. The association brings together all the Microbiologists through annual conferences every year, with the main objective of creating a platform to exchange the scientific information on frontier discoveries and innovations.

This year the 55th annual AMI conferenceis being organized at Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore during 12-14th November,2014. With the great visionary Microbiologist Prof.G.Rangaswami, The Department of Agricultural Microbiology was established in the year 1979. This department was further bifurcated into Department of Bioenergy,Department of Environmental sciences and Agricultural Biotechnology. Since its inception, the department is involved in research, teaching and extension activities. The department has released Novel Strains of Bio fertilizers for various crops and soils and is pioneer in deducing Novel Strains for K, Zn and Mn solubilisation and hence is recognized as Nodal agency for bioinoculants in Tamil Nadu under authorized for quality control of agricultural bio inoculants.The recent research focus of the department has been extended on bioprocessing, fermentation of vegetables, climate change impact on microbial diversity and biofuels.

The department has established collaborative research work with international agencies/institutes*viz*.,Institute of Applied Microbiology, Justus Leiburg University,Giessen, Germany(Bioremediation and Metagenomics),Institute for water and waste water technologies, Durban University of Technology, Durban, South Africa(Algal biofuels), School of Applied Biology, Florida International University, Miami, USA (Laccase system for biomass conversion), Department of life science,University of Nottingham, Nottingham,UK (Entophytic N_2 Fixation in cereal crops) IRRI,Philippines(Biological N_2 Fixation in wetland ecosystem),Department of Life Sciences, Kings College,London(Photo biological H_2 production by cyanobacteria) and National institutes *viz*.,CRRI, Cuttack (Climate change and microbial dynamics), CRIDA,Hyderabad; UAS, Dharwad; Delhi university(Soil genomics network),NBAIM,Mau nathBhainjan,UP(Food fermentation and value addition) NCOF,Faizabad(Bio inoculants quality control) IISC, Bhopal(Biological N_2 Fixation Network) and BRNS,Mumbai(Mycorrhiza).The department is having research projects from ICAR,DBT,DST,BRNS,MOFPI and so on with a total budget of about of Rs.5 crores / annum.

Based on the work,the department was recognized as the centre for Advanced Studies in Agricultural Microbiology by UNDP/FAO/ICAR During 1979 to 1986 and by ICAR from 1997 onwards. Also Centre of Excellence for “Frontier Areas of Science and Technology” is functioning with an outlay of four crores.

Currently, microorganisms become the driving force behind majority of applications in medicine, food, chemical and agricultural industries. Moving towards the manipulation of microbes through engineering we are rapidly near the day when biological can be produced economically and naturally.

With the said, focal theme of the deliberation of the conference will cover applications of microbial technologies in the following fields.

Agricultural Microbiology, Environment Microbiology, Food Microbiology, Industrial Microbiology, Medical Microbiology, Fermentation Technology,Antimicrobial compounds,Microbial fuels,Microbial diversity and Bioremediation.

Conducting such scientific conference, suits well for the current accomplishments as the total global market for microbes and microbial products is expected to exceed $259 billion by 2016,with the market for $ 6.8 billion for bio fertilizers, bio pesticides and

probiotics.This conference publishes of abstracts in CD Format in a user friendly manner with the objective of conserving the usage of paper and preserving the nature. Mini reviews of the invited talks have been obtained and published as a hard copy for the benefit of the participants. A budding scientist's session has also been introduced for encouraging and the attracting young talents towards microbiological sciences.

The conference will be attended bymore than 1000 scientists and scholars from all parts of India. The conference would be of great help for the scientific community of microbiologists to plan and to achieve in a better way for creating visible changes with the invisible microbes.