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To
The Editor,

Date: 14-3-2018

Sir,

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

Enhanced Preservation of Fruits using Nanotechnology

The Final Dissemination Workshop of the Canadian Government funded Project on "*Enhanced Preservation of Fruits using Nanotechnology*" being jointly funded by Global Affairs Canada (GAC) and International Development Research Center (IDRC) in TNAU for the past five years (2012-2018) with a financial outlay of **Rs. 11.4 crores**. The project is intended to reduce the post-harvest losses in fruits and vegetables which is a global challenge. India loses about **Rs. 2,40,000 Crores** annually due to lack of improper harvesting, handling and transport of fruits besides inadequate cold storage facilities. The Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore, collaboratively work with University of Guelph, Canada, and developed a basket of technologies such as pre-harvest spray or post harvest dip of hexanal formulation, hexanal vapour, nano-stickers, nano-pellets and nano-film developed from banana pseudostem. Hexanal is a biomolecule derived from plants possessing the capability of inhibiting phospholipase D enzyme and slowing down ethylene thereby shelf-life of fruits and vegetables get extended besides minimizing post-harvest losses. All these technologies singly or in combinations can reduce the post-harvest losses to the tune of 10-15% which is an economic boon to the country.

Ms. Jennifer Daubeny, Consulate General of Canada, will offer special address narrating the significance of Canadian funding in developing nanotechnologies to reduce post-harvest losses while enhancing the food security. **Dr. K. Ramasamy**, Vice Chancellor, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore will preside over the function and highlight the role of TNAU in knitting nanotechnology research framework and serving as a torch bearer in the country. **Dr. Jayasankar Subramanian**, Professor, University of Guelph, Canada and **Dr. K.S. Subramanian**, NABARD Chair Professor, TNAU, Coimbatore, are lead Principal Investigators of the Project will present the technologies developed from the project. **Dr. G.J. Janavi**, Professor & Head, Department of Nano Science & Technology, TNAU, Coimbatore will welcome the gathering. About 200 Scientists and Diplomats from Canada, students, scholars, university officials are expected to participate.

Public Relations Officer