

## Tamil Nadu Agricultural University

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The Editor,

Sir,

I request that the following message may kindly be published in your esteemed

daily:

TNAU Organized 7<sup>th</sup> National Youth Convention on "Food Security to Nutritional Security: Youth Perspective

Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU),All India Agricultural Students Association (AIASA) and Indian Council for Agricultural Research (ICAR) along with students organized "7<sup>th</sup> National Youth Convention" at TNAU on 24.03.22 & 25.03.22 with the core theme of "Food security to nutritional security: Youth perspective (FSNS 2022)".

Dr. A.S. Krishnamoorthy, Registrar & Acting Vice Chancellor, TNAU in his inaugural address emphasized the importance of agriculture and its entrepreneurship opportunities of farm graduates. He also stated that global population is expected to be 9 billion by 2050 with 14% youth aged 15-24 was and he requested the youth to become entrepreneurs in the areas of digital Agriculture, Remote Sensing, Nano Science and big data analysis for improvement of Agriculture.

Dr. RM. Kathiresan, Vice-Chancellor, Annamalai University in his keynote address stressed the importance of nutritional security and he stated that about 51% of women in the age group of 15 to 49 years were anemic. He insisted that youth and experienced scientists should work together with interdisciplinary and collaborative research for the development of agriculture to ensure food and nutritional security.

Dr. R.C.Agrawal, Deputy Director General (Education), Indian Council for Agricultural Research, New Delhiduring his presidential address stressed to reduce the food wastage so as to achieve supply of food to underprivileged section of the society.

He explained that 3000 litres of water is required for producing a kg of rice production and 1kg of coffee requires 900 litres of water and hence he advocated less water requiring crops like millets to ensure food security.

Mr. Vivek Saurabh, National president, All India Agricultural Students Union briefed the importance of the conference. Dr. M. Kalyanasundaram, Dean Agriculture, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University in his felicitation note added that India is self-sufficient in food production but has nutritional insecurity. He emphasized that more attention is needed to enhance nutrition as India is facing 14.5% of hidden hunger problem and the concept of "Bio fortification" as a solution to nutritional insecurity.

Dr. T. Raguchander, National Organizing Secretary & Dean (Students Welfare), TNAU welcomed the gathering and Mr. G. Karthikeyan Local organizing secretary proposed the vote of thanks. As part of the convention, a book fair and exhibition were organized to execute the entrepreneurship skills of farm graduates showcase products of alumni, rural youths and budding entrepreneurs for the benefit of young students.

There are about 850 participants in conference (both online and offline across the country) in which 474 students have submitted the research abstracts. Under seventh thematic areas separate poster session was also arranged in which about 350 participants attended the convention.

**Public Relations Officer**