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The Editor,

Sir,

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

## TNAU hosted Ecofest '25: International Conference on Accelerating Action for a Sustainable Planet – Towards SDG 2030

Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU), through its Agricultural Engineering College and Research Institute (AEC&RI), Coimbatore, inaugurated Ecofest '25: International Conference on Accelerating Action for a Sustainable Planet – Towards SDG 2030 at Anna Auditorium on 13.05.2025, with enthusiastic participation from students, faculty, and invited dignitaries. The inaugural session began at 9:30 AM, graced by Thiru. Pavankumar G Giriyappanavar IAS, Honorable District Collector of Coimbatore District, as the Chief Guest. The event was presided over by Dr. R. Thamizh Vendan, Acting Vice-Chancellor and Registrar, TNAU.

Dr. A. Raviraj, Dean (Agricultural Engineering), AEC&RI, who offered a Felicitation Address emphasizing innovation and youth-driven climate action and highlighting the role of academic institutions in driving sustainability goals.

Distinguished Special Guest Speakers included: Dr. S. Vigneshwaran, Programme Officer, ENVIS Resource Partner on Forest Genetic Resources and Tree Improvement, ICFRE, Coimbatore; and Er. Muthu Venkata Selvam, Co-Founder, AQVASTAR Smart Flow Solutions, Bengaluru. In his Chief Guest Address, the District Collector stressed the value of eco-friendly innovations and sustainable startups, specifically citing reuse of plastic bottles as impactful environmental solutions. He also applauded the dedication and enthusiasm of students in successfully organizing an international conference of this scale and significance.

Dr. R. Thamizh Vendan, in his Presidential Address, highlighted the critical relevance of SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy), SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), and SDG 13 (Climate Action). He underscored TNAU's active role in integrating these goals into research, education, and outreach activities to build a more sustainable future.

A notable moment of the event was the presentation of awards by the Collector to students who brought honor to the institute through participation in prestigious national and international highend programs, showcasing the global competence and leadership potential of TNAU's student community. The event also marked the Release of the Book of Abstracts of Ecofest '25, featuring cutting-edge research and ideas from participants.

Ecofest '25 continues to serve as a dynamic platform for meaningful discussions, innovations, and collaborations aimed at accelerating action toward the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.

**Public Relations Officer**