

## Graduation Day - College Report (14.12.2016)

The Respected Chief Guest Dr. N. Ragupathy, The Dean, Agricultural college and Res. Inst, Madurai, Respected Chairman Dr. K. Varadharaajen, Respected Vice-Chairman Mr. V. John Ashok Kumar, Respected Members of St. Johns Sangam Trust, Principal of Roever Engineering College, Principal of College of Engineering Technology and Management, Principal of Arts and Science, the Senior Professors, Assistant Professors, Non-teaching staff my dear students, parents, press and media people a very good morning to you all. It is my immense pleasure to present this college report on the eve of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Graduation day.

St. John Sangam Trust is a Public Charitable Trust registered under the Indian Trust Act, 1994. It is pioneer in the field of education, extension, agriculture for social welfare and uplift of poor people of central Tamil Nadu for the past 40 years and manages 37 institutions. Under the visionary and



Institutions were established through this trust, to provide affordable and quality education to the needy Students. The institutions working under the trust have produced 1,00,000 students so far and still continue to keep the fire of knowledge burning in those who strive to achieve it.

Thanthai Roever Institute of Agriculture and Rural Development (TRIARD), one of the Roever Group of Educational Institutions was initially started at technical campus, Elambalur with a capacity of 23 students offering Diploma in Agriculture during 1994 followed by Diploma in Horticulture during 2001 with the capacity of 17 students. B.Sc. (Ag) degree programme was started during 2008 with an intake of 39 students. The campus was later shifted to the present TRIARD Campus at Valikandapuram in the year 2010. TRIARD is affiliated to the hoary Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore.



The new campus accommodates both administrative offices and academic infrastructure that houses labs, class room and library. A separate building caters to students dining that accommodate a canteen. Well endowed farm is available that can grow both horticultural and agricultural crops and a Met observatory is positioned for recording meteorological data. Animal husbandry unit houses goats, pigs, buffalo and milch animals.

Both the degree and diploma students are accommodated in the campus. Under the recent renovation, a 250 seater examination hall has been established and establishment of entomology labs, pathology labs, seed technology lab and biotechnology labs are in full swing. Provision of poly house to grow vegetables under protected cultivation has been commissioned lately. Play ground facilities are available for boys and girls separately adjoining the hostels.



Providing hands on training to the students has been the endeavor of TRIARD and to achieve this goal, the students involve themselves in producing vegetables and raise agricultural crops like maize and rice. The students have also reared Japanese quail, country fowls, silk worm cocoons, produced vermicompost, honey and seeds. At present 322 degree and 121 diploma students are pursuing their study programs.

TRIARD is functioning with five major Departments, namely

- Department of Crop Management,
- Department of Crop Improvement,
- Department of Crop Protection,
- Department of Social Studies and Languages and
- Department of Horticulture.



A total of 33 teaching faculties enrich the afore mentioned departments and are functioning actively for the degree and diploma programs. 13 staff members are Ph.D holders and I am proud to state that TRIARD is better equipped pedagogically than other affiliated colleges with Ph.D. holders higher than the recommended students-staff ratio.

In order to boost academic excellence, the Chairman was gracious enough to institute FIVE gold medals in subjects of Agronomy, Plant Breeding, Plant Protection, Social Sciences and Soil Sciences from this year onwards. This exemplifies the involvement the Management has in the academic welfare of TRIARD. Efforts have also been put forth by TRIARD staff to prepare the students for competitive exams for which classes on GK, Agricultural GK, Quantitative aptitude and Logical Reasoning are conducted. Regular coaching classes are conducted for break students to improve their performance from this year onwards.

The learning process is further augmented by enrolling the students in ODL programs offered by TNAU. Lately 42 diploma students have earned their certificate in Sugarcane technology which will boost their enrollment in Sugar Mills.

## RAWE Programme

As part of curriculum, the IV B.Sc. (Ag) students are undergo Rural Agricultural Work Experience Programme. During their VSP Programme (VSP), the students have been staying in the villages with farmers. Apart from gaining first-hand knowledge from the farmers, they also serve the farming community by way of conducting demonstrations, training programs with help of Department of Agriculture and allied departments on farming technologies, pest and disease control as well as promoting schemes and programs of the department.



During this academic year, about 40 trainings have been organized by the students in the villages of Perambalur, Ariyalur, Villupuram, Cuddalore and Salem Districts. The students are also involved in social service programs by organizing tree planting, exhibitions, organic farming, veterinary camp, distribution of tree saplings to the farmers, creating awareness among school students about agriculture along with soil sample collection and testing and model kitchen garden demonstration.



TRIARD has a strong linkage with several Government and Nongovernmental Institutes and Industries. The Government Institutes include National Research Centre for Banana, Trichy, Indian Institute of Crop Processing Technology, Thanjore, Irrigation Management Training and Research Institute, Trichy, Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVK) of Tamil Nadu Agriculture University, NABARD, State department of Agriculture and allied departments such as Horticulture, Forestry and Agricultural Engineering for the different academic activities.

This Institute has tie-up with many Agro Industries such TANFLORA, Hosur, Jain Irrigation, Udumelpet, MGP farmers federation, Dindigul, Salem Spices, Rajashree sugars, Jeya cashews, Tulya Food products, Rasi Seeds and Selvam Seeds for Agro Industrial Tie up Programme as part of the Rural Agricultural work Experience.

The Non Governmental Organizations such as M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF), Chennai, INDO Trust, Barefoot academy, Perambalur, Jeyaram Educational Trust, Ariyalur, Kudumbham Trichy, Rural Education and Environment Development Society, Salem and GREAT Thuraimangalam, Reliance Foundation, Perambalur coordinate with TRIARD for different socio-economic activities connected farming community.



## Exposure Visits

As part of curriculum, the students are taken to different places inside and outside of state too learn the latest technologies developed by the ICAR Institutes, SAUs, International Institutes like ICRISAT, Hyderabad. They travel throughout India from Kanyakumari to Himachal Pradesh. Students are also taken to different agro climatic regions and research Institutes in Tamil Nadu as Short study tour programs. Apart from these one day visits are undertaken to various stakeholders of agriculture and rural development such as TANFLORA, Grow More Biotech and Sivasakthi nursery and export oriented units, TNPL, Plywood Industry, Tobacco Curing Centre, Primary Agricultural Cooperative Banks, Regulated markets, Central Warehousing Corporations, Civil Supplies Corporation, AGMARK laboratory, different kinds of markets, Rural households and Panchayat Raj Institutions.



In this juncture, I would like to mention that all the students of TRIARD are covered under group insurance scheme for Rs1L for which they pay premium of Rs60 per annum.

## Infrastructure



The state of art facilities have been made available in the campus for empowering the students. TRIARD has well equipped laboratories for horticulture, food science, plant pathology, agricultural entomology, biochemistry, soil science, microbiology, agricultural botany, computer science and audio-visual education. A separate digital language lab has also been established for developing the reading, listening, speaking and writing skills of the students. Almost all the classrooms are facilitated with LCD projectors.

Commercial Azolla cultivation tanks, Tissue culture unit, Apiculture boxes, Commercial nursery, Kitchen Garden, Sericulture, Vermicompost units, poultry farming and Fish farming facilities are available for educating the students.

The library has been periodically updated with new editions of books in various subjects. The library is currently equipped with more than 8000 books, 30 National and International journals, 33 subscribed journals and magazines. The students are also provided with regular Hindu newspaper at their hostel room at 25% discount to improve their current knowledge.



TRIARD is one of the pioneer institutes that conduct online exams through exam pads for the degree students. This certainly reduces the consumption of paper and makes the examination easy for the students. It also facilitates quick evaluation by teachers at any time and any place of their choice. Students also have the choice to view their corrected papers.

### **National Service scheme (NSS)**

The NSS unit of TRIARD has 132 students' volunteers. In the current academic year, NSS unit has conducted many programs like National Youth Day programme, Nutritional week programme, Roever Old Age Home visit, programme on Fire Free Nutritive Food, TRIANGA March, awareness on Female Infanticide, Importance of Mother's Milk as well as training on traditional arts of flower knitting.



Apart from these activities, regular programs such as solid waste management, dental camp, Eye Camp, Blood Donation Camp, Awareness on Nutrition, etc are being organized regularly.

All the degree students and the staff members participated in Guinness World Record attempt to form human sentence viz., **“YOU CAN YOU WILL”** organized by Rotary Club of Perambalur.

### **Extra curricular activities**

TRIARD students are richly endowed with talents which they expose during several events organized during the academic calendar. This year onwards we have decided to conduct regular competition among student groups for which they have been divided into four houses named after famous agricultural scientists viz., Ramaiah, Norman Bourlaug, Venkataraman and M S Swaminathan. Seven societies are functioning namely arts and photographic society, trekking society, Tamil and English Literary society, dramatic society, Agri-Horti society, photographic society etc. These societies conduct various events for which points are generated and at the end of the academic year the best performing houses are honored with trophies and shields. This generates healthy competition among students and also brings out the latent talent.



### **Sports and Games**

TRIARD continues its great show in the arena of Inter College



tournament of sports and Games particularly in athletics. Recently our students participated in Kho-Kho tournament conducted by RVS Agriculture College, Thajavur and won Third position. Our students participated in Trichy Marathon and 19<sup>th</sup> Youth state Volleyball championship for boys and girls at Thanjavur. TRIARD students excelled in the recently concluded Perambalur District Sports under 19 Chief Minister trophy tournament. Our boys won the first place in taekwondo and weightlifting. Kabbadi and volleyball courts have been recently established for the benefit of Diploma students.

### **Excellence in Education**

So far 215 Degree students (B.Sc. Ag) have been graduated and more than 1000 diploma holders passed out from this institute. Several of our alumnae are pursuing higher studies and I am sure a sufficient number of those who have gathered here work in banks. Similarly, more than 700 diploma holders are now working as Asst. Agricultural Officers and Asst. Horticultural Officers in the state departments across Tamil Nadu. Majority of the students are working in the marketing field and a few of them have become entrepreneurs.



We have separate cell for placement activities. In the academic year 2015-16, 53 students have been placed in various companies which include Dharani Sugars, Bannari Amman Sugars, E.I.D. Parry, Airwood structures, Sathyam Kissan Care and Reliance foundation.

Students are trained to develop their capability to participate in various competitive examinations and Interviews etc. students are given adequate coaching for Junior Research Fellowship (JRF) examination conducted by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). In the last academic year 6 students got placement under JRF-ICAR examination and 10 students are pursuing Master Degree in TNAU.

### **Schemes**

TRIARD is embodied with adequate facilities for conducting research programs. The Department of Soil Science is the front runner in utilizing this facility. It obtained a scheme entitled 'Bridging the Yield Gap of Maize in Perambalur District through induced Fertilization' from Tamil Nadu State Council for Science and Technology. Recently we got a project funded by NABARD for training Onion growers of Perambalur. We have just concluded a project by Jayaram Thrust and are in the



process of negotiating another project with Reliance Foundation. Indeed it is a proud moment to mention that external funded projects proposed by our staff to the tune of Rs 69L have been sent.



TRIARD is taking continues measures to enrich the knowledge and skills of the staff members. The staff members were deputed to various training programme to develop personal as well as professional knowledge. This academic year witnessed several staff members being sent to various state and national level Institutes such as TNAU, Coimbatore, IIRR, Hyderabad, Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Veterinary Education and Research, Pondicherry for attending conferences. TRIARD staff members have also published 23 research and 12 popular articles. I am glad to mention that several of our staff members were bestowed with Best Researcher awards, Young Scientist award and Best Doctoral thesis award by Indian Academic Researcher's Association, Trichy, Bose Science Society, IIRR, Hyderabad, GUARD society, Hyderabad and Marina labs Research and Development, Chennai.

As a professional institute, TRIARD has been fulfilling its obligation to the society though production and sales of seeds, grains, livestock, vegetables, honey, silk worm cocoons and mushrooms. The sales of these items have been gone up to Rs12L this year and will continue to do so in future.



I wish to extend my congratulation to all the 61 graduating students of 2011 batch and welcome you all to this graduation ceremony. The knowledge, skill and attitude you gained in this institute will definitely shape your personality and it will augment you in serving the society in a fitting manner. I hope that you will involve in activities which will benefit the farming community in particular and the human society at large.

JAI HIND