



Periyar University Newsletter

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National Girl Child Day : NSS Units' Virtual celebrations

Our National Service Schemes' unit-I and II arranged virtual programmes to celebrate National Girl Child Day on 24.01.2022. Initiated in 2008 by the Ministry of Women and Child Development and the government of India, the National Girl Child Day is celebrated in India every year on January 24th to spread public awareness about inequities that girls face in Indian society. Inaugurating the event Honourable Vice-Chancellor Prof. R. Jagannathan highlighted that women are achieving in various fields over a period of centuries. In the recent decade girl children are given much importance for their empowerment, also to prove their talents. In addition, the Government schemes are also enriching the women child and their career in a better manner.

Followed by the Vice Chancellor's Presidential address, Dr. T. Poongodi Vijayakumar, Professor and Head of Department of Food Science and Nutrition delivered a special address on the Empowerment of Girl Child. In her speech, she insisted that girl children must empower themselves in educational, economic, political, and social aspects and to achieve this every girl

child should develop self-confidence, decision making capability and self-esteem. She pointed out that women should always believe in self-standing and themselves to cultivate not only focussed thinking but also to analyse the capacity of becoming empowered. She added that when women became parental guidance to lead a life then she attained a cent per cent empowerment. In terms of political empowerment, it is essential that women need to have more say in decision-making capabilities without any hesitation and superstition.

Another speaker, Mrs Vaishnavi Rajalakshmi, Founder, Talent TN Coimbatore, gave a keynote address on women empowerment and entrepreneurship. She spoke on the dos and don'ts for success to achieve big things. She also quoted that "our work is our identity and we, the women should believe in themselves first by not wasting their time", as a formula for success.

Dr M.Suguna, the programme officer of NSS Unit - I welcomed the gathering and Dr T.Elangovan the programme officer of NSS Unit - II proposed the vote of thanks. Dr P.Prakash, NSS Coordinator and 53 NSS students of Periyar University participated.

அறிவால் விளையும் உலகு



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Photo Courtesy : **G. Vijayakumar**

Bonsai Bananas : Dept of Biotech's innovative effort to develop In vitro banana protocols

Banana contributes to the food security of millions of people in the developing world. It is the world's most widely known and distributed fruit, eaten either raw or cooked and processed food products. Banana is rich in energy, vitamin C and A, high content of potassium and sodium. Banana has also been found effective against colorectal cancer, breast cancer, and renal cell carcinoma. Among the major producers, India alone accounts for 27.43 %. Bananas are fast-growing herbaceous perennials arising from underground rhizomes.

Though the Agriculture of banana cultivation in India is time immemorial, the Department of Bio-Technology has innovatively ventured into developing a protocol for growing bananas in baskets, cups, bottles, etc. According to the leading researcher and our faculty professor, Dr. P. Indra Arulselvi, Assistant Professor, Department of Biotechnology banana cultivation by in vitro culture has commercial application as well. She further says the shoot multiplication technique is used to increase the rate of seedling production and improve the seedling quality of such banana cultivation. The study behind this innovation initially aimed to standardize the protocol for in vitro regeneration of shoots and roots from sword sucker by regulating their growth with different concentration of phytohormones that enhances their growth at different growth duration.

The Source of plant material that Dr. Indra and her team used was from healthy elite Rasthali banana plant. (Variety) and were collected from Salem, Tamil Nadu for mass propagation by plant tissue culture technique. The process involved Explant preparation and disinfection, Media preparation, Shoot proliferation that involved 4 weeks of incubation, Shoot propagation, and Acclimatization that involved 20days, and finally, after 45 days, the plants were transferred to the soil. After ensuring that the Plants were free from fungal as well as bacterial contamination, the small rooted shoots were transferred from in vitro conditions to plastic pots and placed undernet to keep the environment wet and shaded.

Though such processes are very rigorous and test the mettle of the researcher, the results of their innovations always cultivate great fruits for science and the community.



In vitro propagation of sword sucker (Banana) (A) Inoculated explants showing shoot formation after a week of incubation; (B) Shoot Elongation; (C) multiple shoot proliferation Inductions; (D) Root initiation; (E) Root formation; (F) Acclimatization.

Varsity's Fencing Teams Won Gold and Bronze in All India Championship

Periyar University fencing teams won gold and Bronze medals in All India Inter-University fencing (men) Championship (2021- 2022), conducted at Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar, Punjab from 07.01.2022 to 10.01.2022. Fencing teams of Periyar University has participated and won Gold and Bronze medals. Our teams Mr. P. Sivasubramaniyan, Mr.M.Aravindhavelan, Mr.M.Aravindha Kumar, and Mr.K.Kavin won gold medal, and Mr.N.R.S.Praveen and Mr.V.Kubesvar won bronze medal.

Vice Chancellor of Periyar university Prof.R.Jagannathan has congratulated and recognized the winners by giving Rs.5,000 and Rs. 2,000/- respectively in total Rs.29,000/-. Prof. K.Thangavel, Registrar of Periyar University., Dr.K.Venkatachalam, Director of Physical Education, Periyar University, Dr.A.Eswaramoorthy and Dr. S. Prabu Kumar, Team Managers and Trainers were present during the occasion.

Fencing Teams



Swami Vivekananda Birthday



Republic Day Celebration

