



TAMIL NADU AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY
BEST ALUMNUS AWARD FOR THE MILLENNIUM-2000

CITATION

The "TNAU BEST ALUMNUS AWARD FOR THE MILLENNIUM-2000" is awarded to Prof. Dr. M.S. Swaminathan for his outstanding contribution in the field of Agriculture and Environment.

Prof. Swaminathan was born in 1925 at Kumbakonam in Tamil Nadu. He has graduated from Travancore University in 1944, obtained his Bachelor's degree in Agriculture from the then Agricultural College and Research Institute under the Madras University in 1947, his Associateship of the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi in 1949 and his Ph.D. degree from the School of Agriculture, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom in 1952. He started his career as Rice Breeder, CRRI, Cuttack. He was the Director, IARI, New Delhi and held the highest position of the country in Agriculture as Director General, ICAR and Secretary DARE. He was elevated to the International position as Director General of International Rice Research Institute, Los Banos, the Philippines and currently he is the Chairman of M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation, Chennai which is one of the World famous Institute contributed a lot to the people of India and International groups on Environment and Agriculture.

Prof. Swaminathan has been acclaimed by TIME magazine as **one of the twenty most influential Asians** of the 20th Century and one of the only three from India, the other two being the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi and the great poet and Noble Laureate Rabindranath Tagore. Prof Swaminathan has been described by the United Nations Environment Programme as "**The Father of Economic Ecology**" and by Javier Perez de Cuellar, Secretary General of the United Nations, as "**A living legend who will go into the annals of history as a world scientist of rare distinction**". He was the Chairman of the UN Science Advisory Committee set up in 1980 to take follow-up action on the Vienna Plan of Action. He has also served as Independent Chairman of the FAO Council and the President of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources.

A Plant Breeder by professional training, Prof. Swaminathan's contributions to the agricultural sciences of India have led to his being widely referred to as the scientific leader of the green revolution movement. His advocacy of sustainable agriculture leading to an ever-green revolution makes him an acknowledged world leader in the field of sustainable food security. The International Association of Women and Development conferred on him the first international award for significant contributions to promoting the knowledge, skill, and technological empowerment of women in agriculture and for his pioneering role in mainstreaming gender considerations in agriculture and rural development. Prof. Swaminathan was awarded the **Ramon Magsaysay Award** for Community leadership in 1971, the **Albert Einstein World Science Award** in 1986, and the prestigious **First World Food Prize** in 1987 which was awarded to him in USA by the former President of US Mr. Ronald Reagan. The recent prestigious award received by Prof. Swaminathan was the **Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development**.

Prof. Swaminathan is a Fellow of many of the leading Scientific Academies of India and the world, including the Royal Society of London and the U.S. National Academy of Sciences. He was the Founder President of Indian National Academy of Agricultural Sciences, New Delhi. He has received 39 honorary doctorate degrees from Universities around the world. Tamil Nadu Agricultural University had honoured him with honorary degree of Doctor of Science in its XIV Convocation held on 16th February, 1989. He currently holds the **UNESCO Chair in Ecotechnology** at the M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation in Chennai, India.

Prof. Swaminathan graduated from this great Historically known Agricultural College and Research Institute of this University in 1947. We are all very proud of you Sir, as an illustrious alumnus of TNAU. The Tamil Nadu Agricultural University and TNAU Alumni Association, Coimbatore feel proud and place on record the very many outstanding achievements of one of its great Alumni and would be privileged to honour itself by honouring this Great Son of India by awarding "**TNAU BEST ALUMNUS AWARD FOR THE MILLENNIUM-2000**".

All the Agricultural Scientists, Teachers, Students and Staff of this almamater wholeheartedly convey to you Sir, our congratulations and greetings of Millennium New Year 2001, for your great achievements and contributions for Agriculture and Environment.

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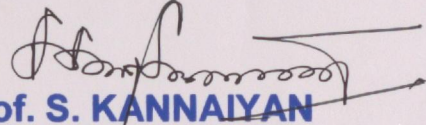
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Tamil Nadu Agricultural University

**BEST TNAU ALUMNUS AWARD
2000**

**The Best TNAU Alumnus Award for the Millennium is presented to
Prof. Dr. M.S. SWAMINATHAN, International Agricultural Scientist
for his outstanding contribution in Agriculture and Environment**

Coimbatore-3
27.12.2000


Prof. S. KANNAIYAN
VICE-CHANCELLOR