

TAMIL NADU

'Need to boost food output to meet growing demand'



STAFF REPORTER

VELLORE, OCTOBER 09, 2018 00:00 IST

UPDATED: OCTOBER 09, 2018 05:11 IST

Meet to highlight organic farming and new techniques

The fourth edition of Vellore Institute of Technology's (VIT) 'Agri Expo' was inaugurated on Monday.

The two-day 'Uzhavar Kalanjiam' is a conference-cum-exhibition for farmers in the region. It included demonstration of organic farming, new techniques in cultivation, water management, latest equipment in the farming sector and use of organic fertilisers, a press release said.

Inaugurating the expo, Wassfi Hassan El Sreihin, secretary general of African-Asian Rural Development Organisation, said that food production had to increase to meet the demand of the increasing population. It was important to use natural resources to produce enough food for all, he added.

THE HINDU

farming. In India, farmers were categorised into big, medium and small, and the number of small farmers was huge. Small farmers were not getting good price in proportion to their produce. Hence they were unable to grow.

VIT chancellor G. Viswanathan said the extent of farming in India was coming down due to depletion of water resources and reduction in the amount of land.

There were 41,000 lakes and tanks in Tamil Nadu. In Vellore alone, there were 1,200, he said, adding that if all lakes and tanks along Palar were protected, deepened, widened and desilted, water stored in them during monsoon could be used when there is water scarcity.

A total of 112 stalls have been put up at the exhibition organised as part of the expo.

On the second day, a conference on farming and demonstration of techniques on high yield of crops using less water, use of organic fertilisers and organic farming would be held.

G.V. Selvam, vice president and Anand A. Samuel, vice chancellor of VIT, were present.

