

UNIVERSITY

NEWSLETTER

TNJFU

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April - May 2021

From the Desk of  
Vice-Chancellor.....



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Vice-Chancellor

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Assistant Professor and Head

Dear Readers,

Each one of us is a unique expression of nature's intricate design. Some are fondly remembered for their attitude and deeds; one such person who stood out for his commitment and actions is Dr.B.Sundaramoorthi, Dean, Fisheries College and Research Institute, Thoothukudi. He was simple, ambitious and action-packed who had never hesitated to accept responsibilities and challenges. His untimely demise is a huge loss not only to the University and his circle of friends and family but to the entire fisheries fraternity. A hard-working and smart learner, had brought in perceivable changes in the system of functioning in hostels when he took over as Warden in 2016 to benefit students who cherished his reformative tenure before he moved to Fisheries College and Research Institute, Thalainayeru as Dean in-charge. An enthusiastic outspoken personality never hesitated to air his views in any forum. He would always look for improvising the system giving suggestions for changes in whatever tasks taken up by him as an able University Officer. He had exhibited his phlegmatic character to deal with situations if demanded, to accomplish tasks assigned to him. We have lost such an efficient officer and personally, it is a huge loss to me. The loss is a rude shock to everyone who knew him. Despite our efforts, he left us in deep sorrow succumbing to the deadly severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus viral infection. By the time I finished writing an obituary to the departed soul, the news of the demise of two more prominent contributors to the University struck us hard. Dr. R. Senthiladeban, Professor of Fisheries Economics, who served as Director of TNFU Academy and holding the position of Dean in charge, College of Fish Nutrition and Food Technology, Chennai and Thiru R. Kumresan, Deputy Librarian who had contributed immensely to the establishment of our libraries could not escape from the cruel designs of the deadly pandemic. Dr. Senthiladeban was soft-spoken and gentle, lived a simple life not bothering anyone, a quality rarely seen. Th. Kumaresan would always be remembered for the help and kindness he rendered to all our library users especially our students. We pray Almighty to give strength to the bereaved family and lead the family to accomplish what they had aspired for.

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We on our part learn a few lessons and move on. Move on with the hope that we overcome the disease with our disciplined observance of all guidelines issued by the Government and Health experts. There is no point in blaming the administration for the rising cases and the way the current crisis is being handled. One needs to appreciate the efforts of the Government, risks and sacrifices of the doctors, nurses, other frontline workers and the police in tackling the enormity of the situation. Vaccination is the only effective means available to all of us. There is still fear among a few on the efficacy and side effects of the vaccines available. The benefits outweigh the risks. We campaign for 100% vaccination in our University and urge everyone to take vaccines at the earliest in our efforts to fight against the Covid.

The future of CoVID depends on our behaviour rather than any other factor. Vaccination is the only strategy to control CoVID spread. However, as people who pursue science, we should understand that no viral vaccine is designed to prevent infection but are to reduce severity in an event of infection. Covishied/Covaxin is not a God sent Amrit, it is just a vaccine to confer protection anywhere from 70 to 90 % and therefore accept the threat realistically and rely more on the behavioural changes that need to be brought into such as wearing N-95 or double masks while going out on essentiality, avoid crowding and crowded places such as rallies, religious or social gatherings, washing your hands with soap frequently, changing mask regularly to avoid any emerging fungal infection, staying positive taking healthy diet and regular exercising. There is a lot of apprehension about the mutants/variants of viruses, however, the good news is that our vaccines work well against them as of now.

The Covid crisis may not end up abruptly as earlier thought of, but the road ahead is going to be bumpy and we may have many less intense waves on and off. Therefore, we need to take all precautions and go slow and steady even post-covid. A mutation in our behaviour is the need of the hour. Let us learn our lessons and be more responsible.

Although the period of April – May wreaked havoc, the resilience of our people helped us move forward. Overcoming grief, our faculty staff organized a few outreach programmes in Biofloc based fish farming, Ornamental fish farming, Soil and water quality management in shrimp culture, Scientific approach in design and construction of aquaculture ponds, Marketing and economics of small and medium aquaculture enterprises and Hygienic dry fish production to serve the community. I compliment the staff of the College of Fisheries Engineering for organizing a four-week long tutorial preparing our students for competitive examinations and also for winning a National level Agtech Hackathon conducted by the ICAR, New Delhi. I am also pleased that the editorial committee has introduced a section in this edition of the Newsletter listing the research publications of the faculty staff that would give the due credit and recognition to the authors and motivates everyone to bring out the best.

Pray the Almighty to lead our University through these difficult times!

**Dr. G. Sugumar, Ph.D.,**  
Vice-Chancellor

### **Obituary:**



**Dr.B.Sundaramoorthy,**  
Dean, FCRI Thoothukudi  
13.06.1965- 29.04.2021



**Dr.R.Senthiladeban,**  
Dean i/c, CFNFT, Madavaram  
25.03.1962 – 03.05.2021



**Mr.R.Kumaresan,**  
Deputy Librarian, TNJFU - Nagapattinam  
20.05.1970 – 11.05.2021

## VC Events

### University Officers Meeting & Convocation Review Meeting:

The Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, TNJFU conducted the 41<sup>st</sup> University Officers meeting and Convocation Review meeting at the Board Room, Tamil Nadu Dr. J. Jayalalithaa Fisheries University, Nagapattinam on the forenoon and afternoon of 08.04.2021 respectively.



### Academic Council and Board of Management Meetings:

The Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor chaired the 15<sup>th</sup> Academic Council meeting and 21<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Board of Management at Conference Hall, Aquatic Rainbow Technology Park (ARTP), Madhavaram, Chennai on 16.04.2021. The meetings were held on a hybrid mode and external experts and a few members attended online.



### Vice-Chancellors' Meeting:

The Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor participated in the Vice-Chancellors Meeting organized by the Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu, Raj Bhavan, Chennai on 20.04.2021 through virtual mode to discuss the Covid mitigation measures including vaccination drive.

### Visit to Kanniyakumari district CeSA Centres:

The Vice-Chancellor visited Centres for Sustainable Aquaculture, Parakkai and Ganapathipuram on 30.04.2021



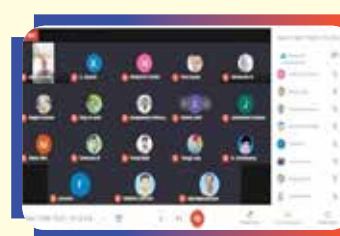
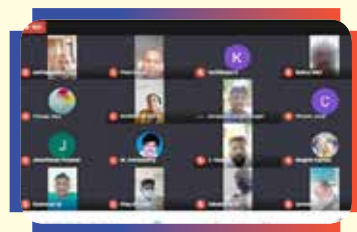
and reviewed the general activities and future plan of action.

## College News

### Fisheries College and Research Institute, Thoothukudi

#### Training programme :

Department of Aquaculture offered a one-day online training programme on "Biofloc Based Fish Farming" on 23.04.2021 through Google Meet Platform. This online training programme aims to provide an idea on biofloc based fish farming which will pave way for starting at their farms/places.



A total of 24 trainees participated. Various aspects of biofloc technology such as basics of biofloc, importance, species selection, culture techniques, advantages, practical utility, challenges faced by the farmers for adoption and its economic benefits were taught to the trainees. Video show on biofloc based fish farming was shown to the trainees.

#### Special camp on testing for COVID-19 to the staff and students :

As COVID's second wave continues at full pace, and some staff tested positive for COVID'19, a special camp was organised to create awareness and screen the staff of Fisheries College and Research Institute, Thoothukudi. This was done in an attempt to curb the infection from further spreading. A team from Government Medical College, Thoothukudi visited the college for preliminary inspection and as per the recommendation swab samples were collected from students and staff for testing of COVID'19. Two hundred and fifty samples were tested by RT-PCR and 15 were found positive. The staff/students who tested



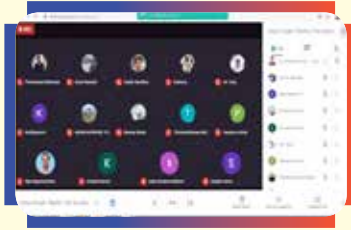


positive were immediately isolated and advised to stay at home. The Government Medical College and Thoothukudi Municipal Corporation teams disinfected the college campus, Departments, Library, hostel and farms.



### Training programme on "Freshwater Ornamental Fish farming" :

The Department of Aquaculture, offered a one-day online training programme on Freshwater Ornamental Fish Farming on 28.05.2021, through Google Meet Platform.



There were 15 trainees in total, two of whom were women. During this training programme, various aspects of ornamental fish farming such as the importance of ornamental fish culture, an overview of the ornamental fish industry, candidate species in the Indian aquarium trade, breeding of egg layers, breeding of livebearers, fabrication of an aquarium tank, setting up of an aquarium tank, feed & feeding management in ornamental fish culture, soil & water quality management in ornamental fish culture, common diseases in ornamental fish culture & its management, value addition in ornamental fish culture and economics aspects in ornamental fish culture aspects were taught to the trainees. The goal of this online training programme was to give participants an overview of freshwater ornamental fish farming.

**Dr. M.G.R Fisheries College and Research Institute, Ponneri**

### Celebration of World Earth Day :



To commemorate World Earth Day for the year 2021, Dr. B. Ahilan, Dean, in the presence of Staff and PG students of the institute planted tree saplings on the campus premises. The tree plantation event was coordinated by Dr. D. Manikandavelu, Prof & Head, DAEM of the institute.



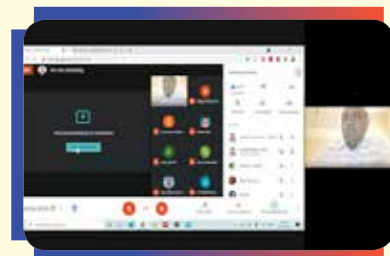
### COVID-19 preventive activities :

As a preventive measure from the ongoing pandemic of COVID-19, the 'KabasuraKudineer' was distributed to staff and students of Dr. M.G.R. Fisheries College and Research Institute, Ponneri. The preventive measure was carried out on two different days [26.04.21 & 30.04.21]. Mr. P. Pavinkumar, Assistant Professor, DFRM coordinated.



### Virtual Training:

The Department of Fisheries Extension, Economics and Statistics (DFEES), Dr.MGR FC&RI, Ponneri organized a one-day virtual training on "Soil and Water Quality Management in Shrimp/Fish Culture" on 26.05.2021. Dr. B. Ahilan, Dean of the institute, inaugurated the training in the presence of Dr. D. Manikandavelu, Professor and Head, DAEM and delivered the first technical lecture of the training. There



were a total of 6 technical lectures in the training which were delivered by the faculty of DAEM and DFEES of the institute. The technical lectures were sequenced in

such a way to cover the important technical facets of Soil and Water Quality Management in Shrimp / Fish Culture. The virtual training was attended by 86 participants from various parts of the Country. Mrs. S. Agnes Daney Angela, Asst. Professor and Head, DFEES & Dr. C. Lloyd Chrispin, Assistant Professor, DFEES served as the training coordinators.

### Dr. M.G.R Fisheries College & Research Institute, Thalainayeru

#### Celebration of World Health Day 2021:



COVID 19 Vaccination drive was organized on World Health Day 2021. A group of Teaching, Non-Teaching and Contractual Staff got their first dose of Covishield Vaccination on World Health Day on 07.04.2021. A team of doctors and nurses from the Primary Health Centre of Thalainayeru handled a technical session emphasising the importance of the COVID 19 vaccination. They also clarified various doubts and queries asked by the employees of the college and explained the benefits of the vaccine in today's scenario. Of 42 staff who attended the session 18 (10 women and 8 men) received their first dose of vaccine. Masks were also distributed by the medical team.



#### World Earth Day 2021:

On the eve of World Earth day, saplings were planted around the campus on 22.04.2021. Competitions such as essay writing, drawing and slogan writing were also conducted for the students. Forty-one students participated in the competitions conducted online.



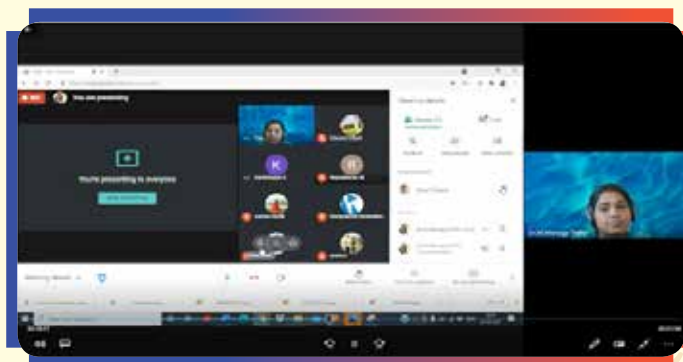
#### Entrepreneurial Skills through Invited Technical Talk :

An invited technical talk on "Successful Sutras for Aquapreneurship in India" was organised on 29.04.2021. Mr. Debtanu Barman, CEO of Aqua Doctor Solutions, Kolkata and young entrepreneur shared his experience for kick-starting a venture in Aquaculture. An exclusive interactive session for effective tie-ups for the students to take up internship and linkage with the industry for converting their ideas into commercial business was also arranged. All the staff and UG students participated in the session and the Dean, Dr.S.Balasundari thanked the speaker for nurturing the business ideas among students.



#### Virtual Training Programmes:

A Virtual Training Programme on "Scientific Approach in Pond Construction for Fish and Shrimp Culture" was organised on 30.04.2021. This online training programme aimed to provide an idea on the aquaculture engineering aspects particularly onsite selection, pond construction, advanced filtration systems including central drainage construction and the Best Management Practices involved in fish and shrimp culture aspects were taught to the





trainees via Google Meet. Dr. S. Balasundari, Dean of the college inaugurated the training programme by delivering the welcome address and highlighted the topics to be dealt with in deliberations. Participants from West Bengal, Maharashtra, Punjab, Jharkhand, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Goa, Meghalaya, Uttar Pradesh, and Chhattisgarh attended.

Another Virtual Training Programme on “Marketing and Economics of Small & Medium Scale Business in Aquaculture in Today’s Context” was organised on 28.05.2021. This online training programme aimed to provide practically feasible business ideas in today’s context along with production economics. The economics and challenges in the different avenues of Small and Medium Scale aquaculture aspects were taught to the trainees via Google Meet. The One-Day training brought up by the Department of Aquaculture was presided over by the Dean Dr.S.Balasundari. Many participants from Uttar Pradesh, Goa, Pondicherry, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Meghalaya attended. E-compendium and e-certificates were given to participants.

#### **Institute of Post Graduate Studies, Vaniyanchavadi** **Guest Lecture :**

Dr. T. T. Ajithkumar, Adjunct Faculty cum Principal Scientist & OIC, ICAR – National Bureau of Fish Genetic Resources, Kochi Unit, delivered a guest lecture on “Ornamental Fish Breeding” at IFPGS, Chennai on virtual mode on 28.05.2021. Aspects such as market potential, the role of captive breeding in conservation, prospects, and constraints in ornamental fish breeding were covered. In total, 101 attended the lecture, including students and staff. Dr. E. Suresh, Assistant Professor of this Institute arranged and organized the event under the guidance of Dean (Basic Sciences), IFPGS, Chennai.

#### **College of Fisheries Engineering, Nagapattinam** **Tutorial on Competitive Examination:**

Online tutorial to take up competitive examinations for Banking, TNPSC, UPSC were conducted for UG and PG students from 03.05.2021 to 28.05.2021 in collaboration with



Aspire Academy, Nagapattinam. The tutorial classes were coordinated by Dr.D.Kesavan, Assistant Professor.

#### **Third Prize in KRITAGYA – A National Level Agtech Hackathon:**



The team headed by Dr.N.Manimehalai, Prof. & Head, DFPE and B.Tech. (FE) students; Mr. P Santhoshkumar and Ms. T. Mathavi secured Third Prize in “KRITAGYA – A National Level Agtech Hackathon” conducted by ICAR. More than 700 teams participated in this national level event across India with various innovative solutions to promote

“Women Friendly Farm Machinery & Equipment”. The team was felicitated with the cash award along with the certificates by Sri Narendra Singh Tomar, Hon'ble Union

Minister of Agri and Farmers Welfare, Government of India during the online award ceremony conducted on 31.05.2021. The team presented a concept on a “Semi-automatic dry fish cutting machine with smart sensors” to reduce the drudgery involved in cutting dry fishes and to enhance the safety of the women involved in the dry fish cutting process. The proposed machine will have an Artificial Intelligence (AI) system to detect the fish surface and human parts. The AI mechanism activates the sensors and stops the action of the cutting blade if it senses the human part.



## Directorates

### Directorate of Extension Education

#### ICAR – KVK – Sikkal

#### Demonstration of a Successful Technology:

KVK demonstrated on Rabi pulses in Black gram VBN 8 and guided the farmers of Nagapattinam for the intensive cultivation technologies through Field Level Demonstration (FLD). Farmers were advised to treat seed with chemical followed by bio-agents like *Rhizobium* and



*Pseudomonas*. Application of TNAU Pulse Wonder was carried out at peak flowering stage to maximize yield under Integrated Nutrient Management practices. A field day was conducted among the farmers and popularized through mass media for this success for large scale adoption.



#### Training Programme on Hygienic Dry fish Production :



Training cum demonstration on Hygienic Dry fish Production using Solar Dryer in PPP mode was conducted from 03.05.2021 to 07.05.2021 for II<sup>nd</sup> Batch of SHG women farmers of Sikkal village. Hygienic Dry fish Production, Value-added fisheries products preparation technologies, Hygienic packaging and marketing were taught to the SHG women farmers. The demonstration was conducted on the Hygienic Dry fish Production of *Nethili* and *Nethili* masala using a Solar Dryer available at KVK, Nagapattinam. Dr. A. Mathivanan, SMS (Fish Processing Technology) handled the training programme. 11 women SHG members participated and benefited.



#### World Bee day 2021 Celebration:

On the occasion of World Bee day a training programme on beekeeping technologies at KVK, Nagapattinam was organised through online mode on 20.05.2021. The importance of the World the bee day celebration was explained and technical training was given to the farmers. Technologies on beekeeping, types of bee, sources of honey, collection of honey, pest and disease, Value addition in honey and marketing aspects were given



to the farmers. Dr.K.Chandrasekar, SMS( Plant Protection) and Dr.S. Muthukumar, SMS (Animal Husbandry) handled the sessions. Assistant Directors of Agriculture from Thirumarugal, Nagapattinam and Vetharanyam



From

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To.

blocks participated and 18 nos. of farmers also attended this programme.

#### Publications in peer-reviewed journals:

1. **Kesavan, D., Padmavathi, P.,** and Kopperundeivi, S.N., 2021. Halochromic optical nose for assessment of spoilage of packed seer fish (II): leaching resistance, the correlation between halochromism and volatile amines. *Pigment & Resin Technology*, Published online, DOI:10.1108/PRT-11-2020-0115. SCOPUS Indexed and NAAS Rating: 6.89.
2. Narayanan, M., Kandasamy, G., Kandasamy, S., Natarajan, D., **Kesavan, D.,** Alsehli, M., Elfasakhany, A. and Pugazhendhi, A., 2021. Water hyacinth biochar and *Aspergillus niger* biomass amalgamation potential in the removal of pollutants from polluted lake water. *Journal of Environmental Chemical Engineering*, p.105574. Published online, SCOPUS Indexed and Impact Factor: 4.300.
3. Narayanan, M., Devi, P.G., Natarajan, D., Kandasamy, S., **Kesavan, D.,** K., Alsehli, M., Elfasakhany, A. and Pugazhendhi, A., 2021. Green synthesis and characterization of titanium dioxide nanoparticles using leaf extract of *Pouteria campechiana* and larvicidal and pupicidal activity on *Aedes aegypti*. *Environmental Research*, Published online, p.111333. SCOPUS Indexed and NAAS Rating: 11.72.
4. Kodeeswaran, P., Praveenraj, J., Fricke, R., **Uma, A., & Jayakumar, N.** (2021). Notes on the Poorly Known Velvetfish *Cocotropus roseus* (Scorpaeniformes: Aploactinidae) from the Eastern Indian Ocean. *Thalassas: An International Journal of Marine Sciences*, 1-7. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s41208-021-00306-3>

5. **Prabu, E., Felix, N., & Uma, A.** (2021). Dietary arginine requirement in diets of GIFT strain of Nile tilapia, *Oreochromis niloticus*: Effects on growth performance, whole-body composition, growth-related gene expression and haemato-biochemical responses. *Aquaculture Research*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/are.15315> (early online view)
6. **Thavasiyandi Umamaheswari, Gopalrajan Sugumar,** Pandian Krishnan, Pachampalayam Shanmugam Ananthan, Arur Anand, Jeyapaul Joyson Joe Jeevamani, Ranganalli Somashekharappa Mahendra, John Amali Infantina, Cherukumalli Srinivasa Rao : (2021) : Coastal vulnerability assessment at household level and village level for building resilience and adaptation: Evidences from Tamil Nadu, India : *Environmental Science and Policy* : 123 : 114-130 : IF - 4.767  
NAAS rating - 10.767

#### Superannuation:

Dr. C.B.T. Rajagoplasamy, Prof. & Head, DAQ, Dr. M.G.R. FC& RI, Ponneri. After serving for nearly 35 years in various positions of TANUVAS and TNJFU, Dr. C.B.T. Rajagoplasamy retired on 30.04.2021.



Th. S. Lakshmanan, Basic Servant, Hostel Office, Fisheries College and Research Institute, Thoothukudi retired on 31.05.2021. Born on 06.05.1961, he served for more than 15 years.