



CMFRI NEWSLETTER

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D.G., ICAR, VISITS VIZHINJAM RESEARCH CENTRE

Padmabhushan Dr. R. S. Paroda, Director General, ICAR, and Secretary, DARE visited the Vizhinjam Research Centre of CMFRI on 13th June 1998 to inaugurate the Marine Aquarium and to lay the foundation stone of the proposed Marine Hatchery Complex.



Dr. R. S. Paroda, DG, ICAR inaugurates the foundation stone laying ceremony of the marine hatchery complex at Vizhinjam.



Dr. R. S. Paroda, DG, ICAR inaugurates the marine aquarium at Vizhinjam, Dr. M. Devaraj Director, CMFRI is also seen.

He went around the aquarium, evincing keen interest in every aspect of the ornamental fishes and other organisms displayed. He visited the laboratories and the infrastructure facilities being

developed for the broodstock development and breeding of ornamental fishes. Operation of the multi-purpose cages for rearing and catching various marine organisms were explained to him. Later, he addressed a meeting attended by eminent persons and scientists. Dr. K. Gopakumar, DDG (Fisheries) Dr. M. Devaraj, Director, CMFRI and Dr. N. Balakrishnan Nair, Former Chairman, STEC also addressed the gathering.

Fishermen-Farmers- Industry-Institution Meet

The XXIX and XXX meets were conducted on clam farming and fish culture during the month of April and May respectively by the CMFRI headquarters and its regional and research centres. A number of fishermen, farmers and representatives from industries and institutions attended.

Research Achievements

Green mussel *Perna viridis* was successfully induced to spawn in the hatchery at the Calicut Research Centre of CMFRI. A total of 13 females and 9 males were spawned by giving thermal stimulation. A total of 12 lakh larvae were reared for 15 days out of which 16000 spats (10-12 mm size) were transferred to the mussel culture farm at Dharmadam.

Cytokinin like substances from green seaweed isolated

Cytokinin is a known growth hormone, promoting cell division and elongation in plants. For the first time Cytokinin like substances have been isolated from a commonly available green seaweed, *Caulerpa racemosa*

through ion exchange chromatography and extracted in ammonium hydroxide solution. One kg wet weight of *C. racemosa* could yield 1.5 g of cytokinin like substances. The activity was assayed with decapitated radicles of green gram. The results obtained on the radicle elongation activity was 50% higher than the commercial grade kinetin (6-furfuryl aminopurine).

One lakh spats of (size ranging from 205 mm) pearl oyster *Pinctada fucata* were produced in the Mandapam Regional Centre of CMFRI. Harvest done on the 1416 implanted oysters yielded 895 pearls, consisting of 290 grade 'A', 296 grade 'B' and 366 grade 'C' pearls. Under consultancy service, about 10,000 oysters (35-40 mm) were supplied to M/s Indian Tropical Products, Tuticorin.

During April, 660.9 kg green tiger shrimp, *P. semisulcatus* was harvested from seven experimental ponds after 150 days of culture period. The harvested size ranged from 10 g to 17.5 g and the productivity ranged from 720 kg/ha to 1040 kg/ha.

F₄ generation baby crabs of *Portunus pelagicus* were produced from F₃ generation mother crab in the crab hatchery.

Meeting of the Staff Research Council

The fifth meeting of the reconstituted Staff Research Council of the Institute was held at Cochin during 2-6 June 1998. The meeting reviewed

the progress of the scientific work done at the Institute. Dr. A. Selvakumar, ADG (Marine Fisheries), ICAR also attended the meeting.

Training programme

Under the TTC programme, a training course on fisheries education was conducted for a period of 15 days from 16 April to 6 May at the CMFRI HQ. Nine participants attended the programme. About 50 faculty members representing CMFRI, CIFT, CIBA and MPEDA were involved in conducting the course.

Deputation abroad

Shri K.N. Kurup, Head, FRAD participated in the regional workshop on routine capture fishery data collection at the FAO regional office, Bangkok, Thailand, 25-28 May.

Engagements

Dr. M. Devaraj, Director:

Visited the Trichur Pooram Ornamental Fish Exhibition, at Trichur 2 May.

Visited the Aiswarya Ornamental Fish Farm, Tripalloor Palghat, 2 May.

Visited the Indo-German cage culture project, Malampuzha, 2 May.

Visited the Purakkad marine fishing village and mudbank ecosystem, 9 May.

Visited the site of the aquaculture engineering project with the Dean, College of Agricultural Engineering,

Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, 16 May.

Held discussions to identify joint studies on coastal water and soil for the preparation of coastal integrated district map, with the Central Soil and Water Conservation Research and Training Institute (CSWCRTI), Udagamandalam and the Central Soil Salinity Research Institute, Karnal, 19 and 20 June at CSWCRTI, Udagamandalam.

Visited the pearl culture project area in Arokyapuram bay near Cape Comerin, proposed to be established in association with the Kottar Social Service Society, 26 and 27 May.

Meeting to assess the implementation of the consultancy projects on pearl culture and Sethu Samudhram surveys at Tuticorin, 28 May.

Meeting with the Director of Fisheries, Govt. of Kerala to finalise the project on pearl production for the Vizhinjam research centre with funding from the State Department of Fisheries, 31 May.

Discussion with the Chief Secretary, Government of Kerala on the Indo-Australian Project on stock enhancement, 30 May.

Visited the pearl culture site at Poovar, 29 May

Visited the marine ornamental fish breeding complex, Vizhinjam 13 June.

Delivered the key note address at a function organised by the CTCRI, Trivandrum, 14 June.

Meeting with the Director of Fisheries, Govt. of Kerala to present projects on pearl culture and mussel culture, 15 June.

Presentation on bivalve culture for funding the CDTMT activities, in the meeting organised by the State Department of Fisheries, 15 June.

Meeting to discuss the progress of pearl culture at Arokyapuram with the office bearers of the Kottar Social Service Society, Kottar, 16 June.

Meeting with the Minister for Irrigation and Fisheries and the Secretary, Irrigation, Govt. of Kerala on water supply to the research complex at Cochin, 17 June.

Attended the 26th fisheries research council meeting under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister for Fisheries, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Chennai, 23 June.

Others:

Shri K.N. Kurup, Head, FRA Division attended the meeting of the technical committee on regulation of fishing vessels at the Directorate of Fisheries, Trivandrum, 28 April.

He also attended the meeting on estimation of marine fish production at the Directorate of Fisheries, Chennai, 18-19 May.

Dr. N. Kaliaperumal, Senior Scientist, participated in the national symposium on seaweeds and their utilization, 5-8 May.

He also participated in the workshop on molecular biology of seaweeds organised jointly by the Seaweeds Research and Utilization Association and the Department of Microbial Technology at Madurai Kamaraj University, and presented a paper on the effect of growth promoters in the culture of *Gracilaria edulis*. Shri J. R. Ramalingam, Technical Assistant also participated in this programme, Madurai 11-16 May.

Dr. V.S.K. Chennubhotla, Officer-In-Charge, Visakhapatnam Research Centre participated in the UGC sponsored national seminar on conservation of lakes in urban environment at Vivek Vardhan College, Hyderabad and presented a paper on measures to conserve Chilka lake, 14, June

Dr. E. Dhanwantheri and Dr. V. Rajkumar, Scientists attended a workshop on national technical guidelines on health certification and quarantine organised at CIFA Bhubaneswar, 28-29 May.

Appointments

Smt. Ashaletha, S. Scientist (on probation) at Kochi 25, April.

Dr. (Mrs) D. Prema as Scientist at FHL, Kochi, 20 May.

Shri Mendoza Xavier as Technical Assistant (T-II-3) at Mandapam

Smt. Kaladevi, M.P. as SSG-I (Messenger) at Vizhinjam 23 May.

Shri S. Satheesh Kumar as SSG-I (Watchman) at Vizhinjam, 21 May.

Smt. S. Padmaja Rani as SSG-I

(Messenger) at Visakhapatnam, 27 May.

Deputation

Shri S. Mony as Assistant Finance & Accounts officer at Kochi, 27 May.

Transfer

Shri S. Chatterjee as Senior Administrative Officer from ICAR HQ to Kochi, 20 June.

Shri P. Bapaiah, Senior Administrative Officer from HQ to ICAR HQs, 9 June.

Shri K. Unnikrishna Menon, Assistant Finance & Accounts Officer from Kochi to Mandapam, 29 April.

Smt. K. Balamani, Junior Clerk (Hindi Typist) from Kochi to Calicut, 8 May.

Shri T. N. Padmanabha Kurup, Assistant from Kochi to Tuticorin, 13 May.

Shri Thomas Teles, Technical Officer (T-5) from Vizhinjam to Calicut,

Inter Institutional Transfer

Dr. D.B.S. Sehara, Senior Scientist on inter institutional transfer to ICAR headquarters, 7 April.

Smt. Rani Palaniswamy, Scientist (SS) on inter institutional transfer to CIFRI, Coimbatore, 8 May.

Relief

Dr. R. Sathiadhas, Senior Scientist is relieved from Cochin to join as Principal Scientist at CIFE, Mumbai, 8 June.

Promotion

Shri P.D. Karunakaran, SSG-I (Watchman) as SSG-II (Watchman) at Kochi, 2 April.

Shri S. Murugaboopathy, SSG-I (Lab. Attendant) as SSG-II (Lab. Attendant) at Mandapam, 18 March.

Shri C. Ramadoss, SSG - I (Lab. Attendant) as SSG-II (Lab. Attendant) at Mandapam, 18 March.

Shri E. Natarajan, SSG-I (Lab. Attendant) as SSG-II (Lab. Attendant) at Mandapam, 23 March.

Smt. V. Padmavathi, SSG-I (Safaiwala) as SSG-II (Safaiwala) at Mangalore, 19 March.

Shri E.J. James SSG-I (Watchman) as SSG-II (Watchman) at Kochi, 18 March.

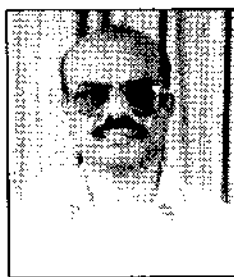
Shri T.K. Antony, SSG-I (Lift Operator) as SSG-II (Lift Operator) at Kochi, 17 March.

Shri S. Mohanan, SSG-I (Lift Operator) as SSG-II (Lift Operator) at Kochi, 23 March.

Smt. Urmila S. Balmiki, SSG-I (Safaiwala) as SSG-II (Safaiwala) at Mumbai, 23 March.

Shri N. Ramakrishnan, SSG-I (Lab. Attendant) as SSG-II (Lab. Attendant) at Mandapam, 13 April.

Retirements



Dr. P. Bensam

Dr. P. Bensam, Principal Scientist and former Head of Demersal Fisheries Division retired on superannuation 30 April.

He had served the CMFRI continuously for 37 years in various capacities since joining the institute in 1960 as Technical Assistant. He has a number of scientific contributions in fish and fishery sciences with specialisation in demersal finfish resources. He has attended a number of national and international symposia, seminars and workshops. He has published about 120 research papers in reputed Indian and foreign journals and was also a member of the Executive Council of the Marine Biological Association of India.

Dr. K. Satyanarayana Rao, Principal Scientist retired on superannuation, 31 May.

Shri R. Bhaskaran Achari, Technical Officer (T-5) retired on superannuation, 31 March.

Shri C.T. Rajan, Technical Officer, (T-5) retired on superannuation, 30 April.

Shri R. Kuppuswamy, Assistant Administrative Officer retired on superannuation, 30 April.

Shri G.K. Kudalkar, Assistant, retired on superannuation, 30 April.

Shri K.L.K. Kesavan, Technical Officer, retired on superannuation,

Shri N. Gopinathan, Assistant retired on voluntary retirement, 1 June.

Shri N.K. Asokan, SSG-IV (Fieldman) retired on voluntary retirement, 2 April.

Resignation

Miss K. Preetha, Scientist resigned, 20 Jan., 1996.

Dismissal

Shri K. Subbaiah, SSG-I (Helper) has been dismissed from service, 19 October, 1997.

Obituary

Shri S.P. Prasad SSG-I (Messenger) at Cochin, 7 May.