

Dear Colleagues,

New Year Greetings!

Its 2019 and TNJFU is in its 7th year !

The year 2018 was really a productive period for the TNJFU !

Our budget this year has touched the magic figure of Rs.100 crores (including all the schemes) for our University.

As you all may be aware of we did get 50 plus additional teaching posts and over 100 non - teaching posts! We need to be doubly thankful to the Government of Tamil Nadu for this single big gift we received in 2018. Approval for opening the 8th new constituent college, College of Fish Nutrition and Food Technology at Chennai is another big achievement for us.

Not only that ...a much awaited Paraprofessional College was started at Royapuram in the name of PP Institute for Fish Processing Technology in 2018. In terms of Courses, we have commenced five new courses viz., MBA in FBM, Ph.D. in Life Science, B.Voc (IFPT), Diploma course on Industrial Aquaculture and Certificate Course on Fishing Technology.

Under the CeSA Directorate many of our commercial facilities are put into use by the public under the PPP mode operation successfully. A shrimp hatchery at Ganapathipuram, Kanyakumari district, Barur Tilapia farm, etc., are few examples of other success stories. A new centre at Trichy under the DCeSA has been opened and got a grant to have the ornamental fish brooder facility there. The site for the second Paraprofessional College (7.5 acres) also has been obtained at Gushi Beach, Rameswaram and with the grant from NABARD the institution is being raised here. A site for the 3rd Para Professional College at Thoothur has been identified in Kanyakumari district at Thenkaipattinam fishing harbour and the land transfer process is in progress. A site for the next Fisheries College / Institute in Kanyakumari district has been searched and finalised. The District Collectorate has identified 11.5 acres for the college in this

regard. Besides this, sites are also being searched for opening Extension centres at Thiruvannamalai, Villupuram, Theni and Ooty.

Thrust for the research works are always given importance and many proposals have so far been sanctioned under the NADP, NABARD, NFDB, TANII, DST, DBT, etc. We have impressed upon the NFDB to obtain a good number of schemes to develop RAS, Biofloc technology, Marine fin fish rearing in cages, etc.

We will be getting NABL accreditation for one of our Referral Labs (RL for QA and M) at Thoothukudi soon. A new Referral Lab for Fish Nutrition is being developed at the IFPGS at OMR Campus, Chennai.

New state-of-art buildings to accommodate the Referral Labs at Madhavaram and Thoothukudi respectively were completed with a budget outlay of Rs.8.00 crore recently.

The unique project of our University ARTP (Aquatic Rainbow Technology Park) at Madhavaram is being successfully put into operation this year on the SPV mode. Another wing of the project ARM (Aquatic Rainbow Mall) with 50 outlets/shops is completed at Madhavaram Campus.

A Seabass RAS facility, Aquaponics unit, Etroplus RAS and Vannamei RAS are the other innovative projects we have implemented this year at ARFF, Madhavaram Campus.

One of our students from Ponneri College topped within 10 Ranks in the ICAR JRF exam last year. From the mere enrolment level of around 100 students few years back, now the University's student enrolment has raised to around 900. The teacher: student ratio in our University is one of the best (< 1:5) among the SAUs in the country, leave alone the Fisheries Colleges! During the last academic year, the best 6 students from the B.F.Sc final year were selected from the University and sent to Vietnam for a 30 days training programme.

A lot of reforms have been brought in for achieving better quality publications from scholars and students of our University. To encourage the young teachers to pursue research, JrTRF (Rs. 2.00 L per year) and URP (Rs. 0.50 lakhs) have been introduced and are being implemented.

The execution style of both the News Letters and the Tamil Magazine have been thoroughly altered and the circulation has been increased.

Organised many Meetings, Workshops, Conferences in the University viz. "Chola Aqua'18 – Scientific and Societal Challenges in Industrial Aquaculture, "Roots and Radiance of TNJFU Alumni in Fisheries and Aquaculture", "PONSHRIMP'18 - Responsible Feeding Management", "Conservation and Sustainability of Aquatic Resources".

Now our University has grown faster in 2018 and currently expended to 40 Constitute Units. Naturally the right manpower has to be in place in all these Units. As a balancing act we need to transfer few staff here and there depending upon the demand and requirements. I expect your co-operation to ensure the sustained growth of our University.

In 2019 we have solid plans to introduce new programmes, new Centres and few new Institutes. With the support of all staff and students we shall achieve new heights!

Wish you all a very Happy, Prosperous and Challenging New year 2019!

Together we can achieve for the TNJFU !

Prof. S. FELIX

Vice-Chancellor, TNJFU