

**UNIVERSITY**

# NEWSLETTER

**TNJFU**

*Vol. 8 No.7  
July 2021*

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**Published by**

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



Dear Readers,

The newly formed Government in Tamil Nadu has been proactive in formulating measures for the development of all sectors of the state and especially the agriculture sector including animal husbandry and fisheries by proposing a separate budget from the current year. Our Fisheries University was also involved in a series of planning and discussion meetings to identify sectoral problems and solutions. The Additional Chief Secretary to the Government, Animal husbandry, Dairying, Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare is keen on the inputs provided by the Heads of the departments and Vice-Chancellors of the Universities. TNJFU was part of the sector-wise review meeting conducted by the Hon'ble Chief Minister and we had the opportunity to put forth our short and medium-term plans for the future that included the establishment of a new Fisheries College and Research Institute in the Kanyakumari district. In the short-term plans, we committed that the University will strive to improve its rank and status at the national level in less than two years. As we know, "Productivity is never an accident", we need to have a systemic approach to convert our commitment into reality. 'Commitment is an act and not a word. As for our university, it is a collective responsibility of all, the staff and students, in delivering duties to our potential that will enable us to attain the success we seek.

The month of July was brimming with several programmes, despite Covid restrictions. Our Hon'ble Minister for Fisheries and Fishermen welfare visited the fisheries establishments at the AIIRLIVAS, IFPGS and DIVA campuses and the Additional Chief Secretary to the Government held discussions at ARTP, AAH referral laboratory and DIVA premises. The National Fish Farmers Day was celebrated at most of our constituent units and I am happy to observe DCESA organizing a webinar series for the benefit of fish farmers of the state. Dr. MGR Fisheries College and Research Institute, Ponneri stole the limelight organizing several webinars, online training and awareness programmes besides campus greening initiatives. The programmes on "Financial awareness and Consumer training" for the students by the FCRI, Ponneri and "Tutorial on International opportunities for students in Fisheries Engineering" by the CoFE, Nagapattinam are unique. I am also happy to share that the Patent grant on "Authentication of snapper products by single-step PCR" to the research team led by our Director of Research Dr. G. Jeyasekaran would encourage the young researchers to accomplish more for their career development and the growth of the University. Stay motivated!

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

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## VC Events

### The Hon'ble Minister visited AIIRLIVAS on 01.07.2021

The Hon'ble Minister for AHDF&FW Department visited the Advanced Institute for Integrated Research on Livestock and Animal Sciences (AIIRLIVAS), Thalaivasalon 01.07.2021 and inspected the facilities at the premises. He was given a warm welcome by the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor and explained the activities and plans of fisheries establishments at the AIIRLIVAS. During the occasion Th.T.S. Jawahar, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Animal Husbandry, Dairying, Fisheries & Fishermen Welfare Department, Govt. of Tamil Nadu and Er.C. Nambirajan, Estate Officer-in-charge were also present.



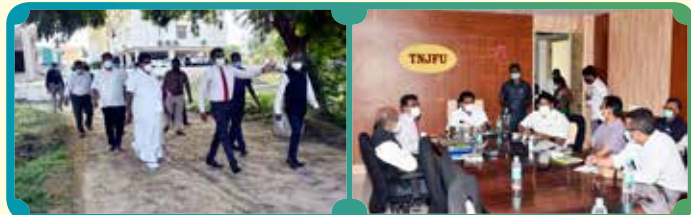
### Additional Chief Secretary to Government, AHDF&FW Department visited ARTP, Madhavaram on 02.07.2021

Thiru. T. S. Jawahar, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Animal Husbandry, Dairying, Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare Department, Government of Tamil Nadu, Chennai visited the Aquatic Rainbow Technology Park, Madhavaram, Chennai on 02.07.2021 along with the Commissioner of Fisheries, Thiru. Karunakaran, IAS. The Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor arranged an interaction meeting with the Additional Chief Secretary, AHDF & FW and Ornamental Fish Entrepreneurs on 02.07.2021 at Aquatic Rainbow Technology Park, TNJFU Madhavaram campus, Chennai. The meeting was conducted to discuss the challenges and strategies of the farmers/entrepreneurs in the ornamental fish culture sector.



### The Hon'ble Minister visited IFPGS on 08.07.2021

The Hon'ble Minister for AHDF&FW Department visited the Institute of Fisheries Post-Graduate Studies, OMR, Vaniyanchavadi, Chennai on 08.07.2021. He was given a warm welcome and the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor explained the activities and plans of IFPGS.



### The Hon'ble Minister visited DIVA campus on 08.07.2021

The Hon'ble Minister for AHDF&FW Department visited the Directorate of Incubation and Vocational Training in Aquaculture (DIVA), Muttukadu, Chennai on 08.07.2021. He was given a warm welcome and the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor explained the activities and plans of the Directorate. On this occasion, the Hon'ble minister visited the aquafeed mill and distributed the feeds that are developed by TNJFU to the fish farmers.



### Live Programme in PuthiyaThalaimurai T.V.

The Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor participated in the Live Programme – "KarkaKasadara" in PuthiyaThalaimurai T.V. on 10.07.2021 from 4.30 pm to 5.00 pm. and explained the academic programmes offered at TNJFU and the scope for fisheries graduates.





### University Officers Meeting

The Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, TNJFU conducted the 43<sup>rd</sup> University Officers meeting through virtual mode on 15.07.2021.

### Vice-Chancellor Visited CoFE, Nagapattinam

The Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor visited the College of Fisheries Engineering, Nagapattinam on 16.07.2021. The Vice-Chancellor briefly reviewed the working of indigenously designed and fabricated Fish meat extractor, Solar-powered auto feeder and Single screw extruder at the College of Fisheries Engineering.



### Annual Staff Review



The Annual Staff Review for the year 2020-21 was conducted by the respected Vice-Chancellor along with the Director of Research in charge on 23.07.2021 at College of Fisheries Engineering,

Nagapattinam.

### "Shrimp Harvest Day" at DIVA campus on 24.07.2021



Directorate of Incubation and Vocational training in Aquaculture (DIVA) organized "Shrimp Harvest Day" on 24.07.2021 at the outdoor aquaculture unit, CIVA-Muttukadu. Thiru. T.S. Jawahar,

IAS, Additional Chief Secretary to Government - Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries Department was the chief guest of the day and inaugurated the harvest programme in the presence of the respected Vice-Chancellor, TNJFU and



Dr.N. Felix, Director, DIVA. The Aquafeed mill activities were explained to the Additional Chief Secretary and the feeds that are developed by TNJFU (Growpia and ornamental feeds) were distributed to the fish farmers and hobbyists.



### Radio Talk

The Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor delivered a Radio Talk on Kodaikanal F.M. Station on 27.07.2021, about the opportunities for fisheries education and the admission prospects and process.

### Mass Tree Plantation programme at CoFE, Nagapattinam

The ICAR-Nodal Cell of TNJFU organized a Mass Tree Plantation programme in association with the NSS unit of College of Fisheries Engineering, Nagapattinam on 28.07.2021 in the premises of CoFE. The Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor planted a saplings and inaugurated the programme.



### Annual Staff Review

The Annual Staff Review for the year 2020-21 was conducted by the respected Vice-Chancellor along with the Director of Research on 29.07.2021 at Dr. M.G.R. Fisheries College and Research Institute, Thalainayeru.



### College News

#### Fisheries College & Research Institute, Thoothukudi Interaction with final year B.F.Sc. students (2017-18 batch) :



The final year B.F.Sc. students are currently undergoing Experiential Learning Programme (ELP) under the Students Ready Programme in Aquafarming practices, seafood processing and value addition. To motivate the students, the respected Vice-Chancellor Dr.G.Sugumar visited the campus and met the students on 20.07.2021. He also emphasized the importance

and needs for the preparation of ICAR-JRF examinations. Dr.N.V.Sujathkumar, Dean i/c presided over the programme.

#### **Training Programme on Battered and Breaded Products:**



A three-day training programme on the preparation of Battered and Breaded Products for the benefit of the scheduled community under the funding support of Indian Council of Agricultural

Research – Central Institute of Fisheries Technology (ICAR – CIFT) as Scheduled Caste – (SC – SP) sub-plan component for Technology dissemination was organized on 14.07.2021. A total of 20 scheduled caste community beneficiaries from the rural areas of Thoothukudi attended. Dr. N.V. Sujathkumar, the Dean in charge presided over the function. During the training programme, preparation of Fish Fingers, Fish burger, Fish Cutlet, Fish Kola and fish pickle were demonstrated for the benefit of trainees. Mrs. A. Swarnalatha, General Manager, District Industries Centre, Thoothukudi participated as Chief Guest and explained various schemes of District Industries Centre for the women entrepreneurship development.

#### **Training Programme on Preparation of Seaweed Cookies :**



For the benefit of Scheduled Community, a three-day training programme on Preparation of Seaweed Cookies under the funding support of Indian Council of Agricultural Research –

Central Institute of Fisheries Technology (ICAR – CIFT) was organised. A total of 20 scheduled caste communities from the rural area of Thoothukudi attended the training programme. During the inaugural function on 28.07.2021, Dr. P. Ganesan, Assistant Professor and Head, Department of Fish Processing Technology welcomed the gathering. Dr. R. Santhakumar, Professor and Head, Department of Fisheries Extension, Economics and Statistics felicitated. Dr. N.V. Sujathkumar, the Dean in charge presided over the function. During the training programme, the preparation of seaweed cake, biscuits and bread were demonstrated for the benefit of trainees. Mr. T. Vijayaraghavan, Assistant Director, Fisheries Department, Thoothukudi participated and distributed certificates.

#### **Dr. M.G.R. Fisheries College & Research Institute, Ponneri Webinar on 'perspective on fish taxonomy'**

The Department of Fisheries Resource Management organized a one-day National webinar on "Perspective on fish taxonomy" on 05.07.2021. The Inaugural address was given by D. Manikandavelu, Dean In-Charge of the day. P. Jawahar, Controller of Examination, TNJFU spoke on "Ichthyotaxonomy: Origin, Growth and Advancement".

"The Concept of Species" was delivered by Dr. R. Saravanan, Scientist-ICAR-CMFRI, Regional Centre, Mandapam.

Dr. A. Kathirvelpandian, Senior Scientist, PMFGR Centre, ICAR – NBFGR, Kochi, Kerala presented a lecture on "Role of Molecular Taxonomy in Fisheries Resource Management". Dr. Rajeev Raghavan, Assistant Professor, Dept of FRM, KUFOs, Kochi, Kerala presented "How to Write a Taxonomic Paper?". Totally 97 participants took part.

#### **Webinar on 'advances in diagnostic methods for fish diseases'**

The Department of Aquatic Animal Health Management organized a one-day online national webinar on "Advances in Diagnostic Methods for Fish Diseases" on 09.07.2021. The webinar was conducted with



107 registered participants. Dr. A. Uma, Professor and Head gave an introductory talk followed by a welcome address by Dr. B. Ahilan, Dean. The presenters in the technical sessions were Dr. K. Anbu Kumar, Assistant Professor, TANUVAS, Chennai (Metagenomics- Its application in aquatic animal health), Dr. S. Arun Sudhagar, Scientist, ICAR-NBFGR, CMFRI Campus, Kochi (RNA-seq based transcriptomics in fish health research), Dr. S. Vimal, Scientist, OIE, AAHM, C. Abdul Hakeem College, Vellore (Molecular diagnostic approaches for fish diseases), and Dr. N. Pazhanivel, Professor, Veterinary Pathology, Madras Veterinary College, Chennai (Histopathological diagnosis for fish diseases).

#### **National Fish Farmers Day**

The National Fish Farmers Day 2021 was Celebrated by organizing an online meet on the theme "Sustainable Aquafarming in Tamil Nadu on 10.07.21. The online meet was organized by the Department of Aquaculture". Dr. B. Ahilan, Dean, Dr. M.G.R. FC&RI, Ponneri inaugurated. The invited speakers were Mrs. Jenyferck, Deputy Director of Fisheries, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Dr. M. Sekar, Scientist, Regional Centre of CMFRI, Visakhapatnam and





Mr. N. Mathu Prakash, Managing Director, Ruimex Aqua Tech, Kumbakonam.

The Department of Fisheries Extension, Economics and Statistics [DFEES], in association with the Office of the Assistant Director of Fisheries, Tiruvallur District commemorated the National Fish Farmers Day by organizing a one-day 'exposure visit cum training on freshwater fish culture' on 10.07.21. Fifteen volunteered aspirants in freshwater fish farming were taken to Mr. Munusamy's GIFT farm at Sennakarai, Tiruvallur District. Mr. G. Ajay Anand, Assistant Director of Fisheries, Tiruvallur District explained the PMMSY scheme.

### Three days training programme on "Ready to serve fish curry in retortable pouches"

Three days training programme on "Ready to serve fish curry in retortable pouches" was jointly conducted by the Department of Fish Processing Technology and Department of Fisheries Extension, Economics and Statistics under ICAR-CIFT SC-SP component from 13.07.21 to 15.07.21. Twenty participants from Pullicat, Red Hills and Ponneri regions attended and benefitted.



### Webinar on "Harnessing the potentials of native ornamental fishes for entrepreneurship skills in aquaculture"



The Department of Aquaculture organized one day National webinar on "Harnessing the potentials of native ornamental Fishes for Entrepreneurship skills in Aquaculture" on 14.07.2021. Around 99

participants registered for the webinar. The webinar started with the welcome address by Dr. K. Ravaneswaran, organizing secretary. The technical session began with the presentation by Dr. B. Ahilan, Dean, on "Revival strategies in improving or upscaling native ornamental fish propagation". A lecture on "Research, Development and training initiatives in native ornamental fishes of India", was delivered by Dr. Atul Kumar Jain, Founder & Director, Ornamental Fisheries Training and Research Institute, Rajasthan. Dr. Saroj Kumar Swain, Director, ICAR – CIFA, Bhubaneswar, Odisha presented a lecture on Indigenous ornamental fishes – A Possible game changer for Indian ornamental Fisheries. The lecture on Ornamental Fish Breeding - The Beginners Perspectives was given by Dr. Satish Sahayak, Empaneled Fisheries Consultant, NFDB. Mr. Christopher, Managing Director of Aquatic Remedies,

Chennai made a presentation on Marketing strategies for native ornamental fishes – Challenges and scope as an entrepreneur.

### Financial Awareness and Consumer Training (FACT) for students of Dr. M.G.R. FC&RI, Ponneri

Dr. M.G.R. FC&RI, Ponneri in collaboration with National Centre for Financial Education (NCFE) conducted a session to appraise all the students of the institute about financial awareness and consumer training (FACT) on 19.07.2021. Dr. C. Lloyd Chrispin, AP, DFEES coordinated the event.



### International Mangrove Day celebration

International Mangrove Day was celebrated on 26.07.2021. An awareness training on "Importance and Conservation of Mangrove Forests" at PRFF, Pazhaverkadu was conducted on 26.07.2021. Totally 35 Students and villagers around Pazhaverkadu participated. The event started with the welcome address by Prof. D. Manikandavelu and the inaugural address by the Dean of the institute, Dr. B. Ahilan. It was followed by two lectures delivered by Mrs. S. Aruna, AP, DAEM on 'Classification and Importance of Mangroves' and Mr. P. Pavinkumar, AP, DFRM on 'Threats and Conservation of Mangrove forests'.



### "Tree Plantation Drive" to commemorate Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam 6<sup>th</sup> memorial day

Tree plantation was organized by the Students' Association and NSS unit on 27.07.2021 to commemorate the 6<sup>th</sup> memorial of former president Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam. Dr. B. Ahilan, the Dean delivered the presidential address. Vice President of the students association, Dr. Cheryl Antony, spoke about the importance of trees and motivated students for tree plantation. Speech about Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam's dream on youth and the importance of tree plantation as individual responsibility was delivered by H. Lisha of the final year. Finally, 25 saplings were planted inside the college campus.



### Three-day training programme on “Protein-enriched extruded product from fish”



Department of Fish Processing Technology and Department of Fisheries Extension, Economics and Statistics have jointly organized a three days training programme on “Protein-enriched extruded product from fish” under ICAR-CIFT SC-SP component from 27.07.21 to 29.07.21. Twenty participants from Pullicat, Red Hills, Minjur and Ponneri regions attended and benefitted.

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

#### National Doctors Day

At the helm of COVID 19 Pandemic, staff and students took pride in honouring the Doctors on the special occasion of National Doctors Day on 01.07.2021. A memento to Dr.Jeevitha, Block Medical Officer of Primary Health Centre and her team at Thalainayeru was given by Dr.S. Balasundari, Dean.



#### World Population Day

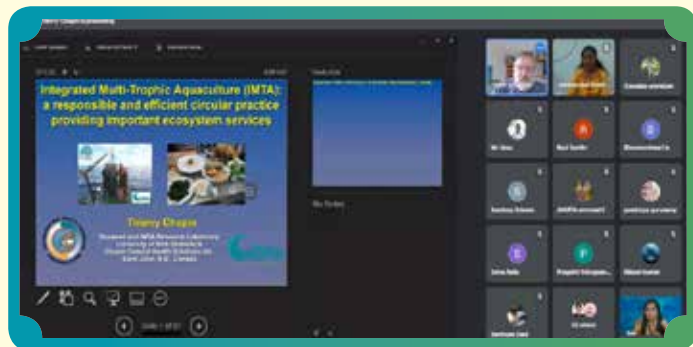
A special talk on “Importance of healthy eating” was organised to commemorate World Population Day on 09.07.2021. Mrs. K. Rajeswari, Consultant Nutritionist, HealthyfyMe, Kerala, has shared the important aspects of healthy eating and specific diets during the pandemic. The session was inaugurated by Dean, Dr. S. Balasundari. Mrs. S. Vimaladevi, Assistant Professor, coordinated the program. A total of 77 participants, Staff and Students attended the session.



#### National Fish Farmers' Day

National Fish Farmers' Day was celebrated by organizing virtual Webinar on “Integrated Multi-Trophic Aquaculture” on 10.07.2021. Prof. Thierry Chopin, Professor

of Marine Biology, University of New Brunswick, Canada who developed the technology “Integrated Multi-Trophic Aquaculture” spoke. A total of 100 participants attended. Dr.S.Balasundari, Dean welcomed the participants.



### Three-day training programme on “Fish Wafer”

Conducted three days training programme on “Fish Wafer” funded by ICAR-CIFT SC SCP scheme from 22.07.2021 to 24.07.2021. The training programme was inaugurated by Dean, Dr. S. Balasundari and



distributed the certificate. Six lectures were given on various topics viz Hygienic handling, packaging and marketing aspects of value-added fish and fishery products and health benefits of seafood. Dr. V. Alamelu, Assistant Professor has demonstrated the preparation of fish wafers to participants. A total of 20 women participated.

### Virtual Webinar on Current Status and Prospects of Indian Fisheries

A virtual webinar on “Current Status and Prospects of Indian Fisheries” was organised on 28.07.2021. Dr.S.Balasundari, Dean inaugurated. Dr. M.Karthikeyan, Director, MPEDA, Kochi delivered a special talk on “Present Status and export of fish fishery products from India”. Mr.A.Antony Xavier, Director (Technical), CAA, Chennai gave a lecture on “Current scenario of coastal aquaculture in India”. The lecture on “Responsible fishing for conservation





of marine fishery resources” was given by Dr.U.Sreedhar, Principal Scientist, ICAR-CIFT, Visakhapatnam. A total of 98 participants have attended the webinar.

### Three-day training programme on “Seaweed Nutri Drink”

Dr. MGR. Fisheries College & Research Institute, Thalainayeru, Nagapattinam organised training on “Seaweed Nutri drink” funded by ICAR- CIFT SC SCP scheme from 28.07.2021 to 30.07.2021. The session was inaugurated by Dean, Dr. S. Balasundari. The trainees were offered six lectures on various topics of seaweed products, seaweed culture, packaging and marketing aspects of seaweed and seaweed-based products. Dr. V. Alamelu and Mr. V. Vijayarahavan, Assistant Professors, demonstrated the preparation of Seaweed Nutridrink to the trainees. A total of 20 women participated.



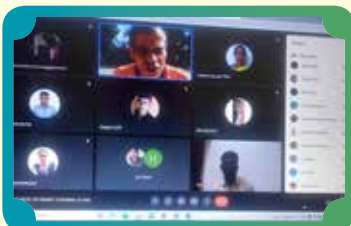
### College of Fisheries Engineering National fish farmers day 2021

In commemoration of National Fish Farmers Day celebrations on 10.07.2021, a farmers’ awareness meet was arranged in a shrimp farm at Thettakudi, Vedaranyam Taluk, Nagapattinam District wherein 25 numbers of shrimp farmers participated. A lecture was delivered by Mr. T. Anand on “Problems expected in *Penaeus vannamei* culture during this winter crop and the way forward to overcome”. Seventy-five water samples brought by the shrimp farmers in the region were analyzed on-site and possible corrective measures were given.



### Tutorial classes for international opportunities in Fisheries and Fisheries Engineering

Tutorial classes for international opportunities in Fisheries, Fisheries Engineering and relevant fields for students of B.Tech. (Fisheries Engineering), B.Tech (Energy and Environmental Engineering), M.Tech.(Aquacultural Engineering), and M.Tech.(Fish Process Engineering) was conducted. Dr. Lakshmanan Ramamoorthi Senior Technical Advisor, United States Department of Agriculture delivered a lecture on “Higher educational opportunities and job in Fisheries and Fisheries Engineering Sector – an overview on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2021. Mr. Kumarasamy,



working as a consultant in the Food industry in UK delivered a lecture on job and education opportunities in the Fisheries sector in UK on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2021.

### Training cum demonstration Programmes for SC/ST community

Fish Processing Incubation Facility, organized two numbers of Three Days Training cum demonstration Programs entitled “Protein-enriched extruded products from fish” and “Ready to serve fish curry in retortable pouches” were conducted for the unemployed youth during 20-22<sup>nd</sup> and 27-29<sup>th</sup> July 2021. Trainees were demonstrated and trained about hygienic handling of fishes, production of fish meat powder for value addition, operation of extruders, retort processing unit and packaging units, production of ready to cook extruded products (seafood protein-enriched pasta and noodles), ready to eat extruded products (seafood protein-enriched corn puffs) and ready to serve seafood curries in retortable pouches. Special lectures about FSSAI requirements for food production and funding opportunities available for SC/ST community were also arranged. Forty numbers of participants from in and around Nagapattinam were benefitted from the programme sponsored by ICAR Centre Institute of Fisheries Technology, Cochin under SC-SP component. Dr. P. Karthickumar, Asst. Professor coordinated.



### Directorate of Extension Education ICAR-KRISHI VIGYAN KENDRA

#### National Fish Farmers’ Day 2021

ICAR- Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Nagapattinam celebrated National Fish Farmers day at the fish farm located at Andakudi village on 09.07.21. Dr. A. Gopalakannan, Programme Coordinator, KVK greeted the farmers on this day and delivered a technical speech on the role of fish farmers in improving the country’s fish production. Mr. E. Hino Fernando, SMS (Fisheries Extension) delivered a talk on the history and importance of celebrating this day. Dr. A. Mathivanan, SMS (Fish Processing Tech) explained the opportunities and scope of preparing value-added fish products and marketing avenues. Around 15 fish farmers from the district participated in the programme.



#### CELEBRATION OF 93<sup>rd</sup> ICAR FOUNDATION DAY

In line with the celebration of 93<sup>rd</sup> ICAR Foundation Day, a Nationwide Tree Plantation Campaign and Virtual

From

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To

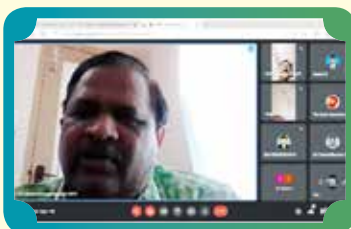


training programme on 'Organic Vegetable Cultivation', was organized in the KVK premises. The Programme Coordinator Dr.A. Gopalakannan has inaugurated the function and planted a tree sapling on

the campus. On the eve of the celebration 50 trees were planted. Virtual mode training on "Organic Vegetable cultivation" was conducted. A technical lecture on Organic vegetable cultivation was given by Mr.K.Ragu, SMS Horticulture. Dr. V. Kannan, SMS Agronomy delivered the Organic inputs and farm waste management. An awareness lecture narrating the importance of caring for animal, plant and human health was given by Dr.S. Muthukumar, SMS Animal Husbandry. Totally 56 farmers were benefited virtually in the training.

#### Directorate of Sustainable Aquaculture Webinar Series

A series of Webinars on Aqua-Agri integration for increase farm returns (10.07.2021), Start-up ideas for ornamental fish farming (14.07.2021), Guide to high-value ornamental fish breeding and farming (17.07.2021), Breeding, maintenance and economics for ornamental fish farming (23.07.2021), Multipurpose farm pond management techniques for higher production and profit (27.07.2021) and Simple ways to assess the pond and assure the profit (30.07.2021) were organised. Director and faculty took special lectures for the benefit of fish farmers.



#### Directorate of Incubation and Vocational Training in Aquaculture

##### National Fish Farmer's day observed at DIVA

Observed the 19<sup>th</sup> National Fish Farmer's day on 10th July 2021. Addressing the gathering, Dr. N. Felix, Director, briefed about the importance of cost-efficient aquafeeds, technical services rendered for the fish farmers, educational

activities of TNJFU and the scope for the fishermen families in the fisheries sector.

#### Directorate of Incubation and Vocational Training in Fisheries

With the financial assistance of National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) Hyderabad, two Webinars entitled "Recent Advanced Technologies in fishing methods" and Advanced Navigational Aids in Fishing were jointly organized by DIVE, Ramanathapuram and Reliance foundation – Chenkalpattu zone on 23.07.2021 and 30.07.2021.



#### Patent Granted:

A patent entitled "Designing of genus-specific primer for Lutjanus from 16S rRNA mitochondrial region for authentication of snapper products by single-step PCR" was granted to the research team, Prof. G. Jeyasekaran, Dr. B. Sivaraman and Prof. R. Jeya Shakila of the Department of Fish Quality Assurance and Management, Fisheries College and Research Institute, Thoothukudi. The patent was granted for designing a genus-specific primer set, 6S-SGS-F/16S-SGS-R, targeting 16S rRNA region of snapper belonging to the genus Lutjanus. The specificity of the primer was proven with six snappers species of Lutjanus. The primer set did not amplify the target region of three related selected groups viz., groupers, emperors and tilapia. The technique will be useful for direct authentication of raw and processed snappers by single-step PCR, as snapper is one of the major fish species adulterated in the International market.

