

TNFU NEWS LETTER

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FROM THE DESK OF VICE – CHANCELLOR.....



TNFU inaugurated the first Fisheries Engineering College buildings at the Nagapatinam Campus. It was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Minister for Fisheries and Hon'ble Minister for Handlooms and Textiles.

Attended VC's Conference at Kolkatta and the deliberations were more useful to overcome challenges. The Tamil Science Congress which I attended at TNAU campus along with the VCs of TNAU and TANUVAS was a memorable event!

It has been decided to recognize the good works of University Officers and in this regard Dr. J. Stephen Sampathkumar was chosen as the 'Best Performer of the Quarter'! I congratulate him for the effective manner in which he has delivered his responsibilities. Looking forward to other UOs to perform to their capabilities.

Another big task in front of myself when I took charge was to bring out the ASRR of TNFU! Within 100 days of my joining the 'Acts, Status, Regulations and Rules' (ASSR) Book of TNFU was published with the help of a dedicated team of Uos. The long awaited test for the university employees will be held on 7th of October.

Counseling for B.F.Sc., and B.E. (Fisheries Engineering) were completed and students were fully admitted in TNFU.

It's a great news that TNFU ranked **FIRST** among the Fisheries Universities of the country, as per the ICAR Ranking released recently. I know we need to proceed further positively to retain the position.

I wish to thank all my University Officers, Professors, Non-teaching staff, students and scholars for helping to achieve this milestone.

We are striving hard to go still up in the ranking as we are horizontally also growing at a rapid pace. TNFU has now Five Colleges and 25 Centres under its umbrella to nurture. We need to grow well and grow faster too to keep pace with the current developments.

Prof. S. Felix
Vice - Chancellor

EVENTS/MEETINGS

3rd CONVOCAION OF TNFU

The Third Convocation of Tamil Nadu Fisheries University was held on 01.07.2017 at Durbar Hall, Raj Bhavan in the gracious presence of Hon'ble Governor of



Tamil Nadu and the Chancellor of the University, Thiru Ch. Vidyasagar Rao. Prof. S. Felix, Vice-Chancellor welcomed the gathering and presented the report on the mission and activities of the University. Mr. Gagandeep Singh Bedi, Principal Secretary to Government, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries declared 12 numbers of new endowment awards for academic excellence.

Dr.B.Meenakumari, Chairperson, National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai was the Chief Guest for the convocation. The Chief Guest delivered the convocation address and in her address she highlighted the ongoing paradigm changes in the sector and dealt on the approaches needed to cope up with the emerging changes. The Chief Guest also appreciated the contributions of the TNFU for the development of fisheries and aquaculture sector in Tamil Nadu state. In this convocation, a total of 38 graduates were conferred the degrees 'In-Person' (four Ph.D, 12 M.F.Sc. and 22 B.F.Sc.) and a total of 21 graduates received their degrees 'In-Absentia'.

Dr.K.Rathnakumar, Registrar i/c declared the medal winners for academic excellence. A total of 10 medals were awarded for academic excellence and performance. Dr. N. Jayakumar received the Gold medal for the best academic performance in Ph.D. degree programme and J. Amala Shajeeva received four medals, S. Karthick, V. Vidhya, Parvatham Halekhyia Sri Himaja and Siyari Santhi Sumanjali received one medal each for M.F.Sc. degree programme and R. Hamsavalli received one medal for best academic performance in the B.F.Sc. degree programme. Dr.S.A.Shanmugam, Chairman, Convocation Committee and Controller of Examinations co-ordinated the arrangements for convocation.

TNFU-UG Admission 2017-18

UG admission counseling of Tamil Nadu Fisheries University for the academic year 2017-18 was held for the

B.F.Sc. course at FCRI, Ponneri on 29th July 2017. In this counseling, 350 students participated and a total of 112 seats were filled up. The counseling for B.E (Fisheries Engineering) was held on 30th July 2017 in which all the 20 seats were filled up. Under NRI category, eight



students were admitted to B.F.Sc. and four students to B.E. (Fish.Engg.). The Pro-chancellor of the university and the Hon'ble Minister for Fisheries, Finance, Personnel and Administrative Reforms, Thiru. D. Jayakumar handed over the admission letters to the selected candidates in the presence of Dr. S. Felix, Vice-Chancellor and Deans of respective colleges. Dr. S.A. Shanmugam, Chairman, UG Admission Committee & Controller of Examinations co-ordinated the event.

ICAR Monitoring and Review Team's Visit

The Monitoring and Review Team of the ICAR visited the FCRI, Thoothukudi on 13.07.2017 to physically verify and assess the impact of activities and infrastructure established under the ICAR development grant during



XII plan the period from 2012 to 2017 in the TNFU. Dr.S.Felix, Vice-Chancellor, Tamil Nadu Fisheries University welcomed the Team and made a vivid presentation on the ongoing activities of the TNFU with reference to education, research and extension and also the future plan of activities of the university. Dr.K.Pradhan, Chairman of the Monitoring and Review Team offered the opening remarks of the meeting. Dr.M.B.Chetti, Assistant Director General (HRD), ICAR

briefed the gathering about the objectives of the review. Dr.S.A.Shanmugam, Nodal Officer and Controller of Examinations, TNFU made presentation on Utilization of ICAR Development Grant during the XII Plan period. There was a detailed discussion in which all the University Officers and members of the team participated actively and Dr.M.B.Chetti summarised the remarks of all the members of the team.

The team members visited all the facilities including laboratories, class rooms, library, Experiential Learning Units, Niche Area of Excellence on Quality Assurance and Certification, etc. created under ICAR Development Grant in various departments of FCRI, Thoothukudi on the same day. The Team also had separate meetings with faculty members and the students and obtained their views on the impact of ICAR DG provided, the proposals for further improvement of higher education in fisheries and constraints faced by the students. The team members expressed their satisfaction over proper utilization of the IDG and proper maintenance of related accounts in the TNFU.

Vice Chancellor's review at FCRI, Ponneri



Dr.S.Felix, Vice - Chancellor reviewed all the Departments and the Staff of FCRI, Ponneri on 19th July 2017. Heads and Staff of all the seven departments presented their work done reports with respect to teaching, research and extension activities. During the review, the Vice-Chancellor enquired the working status of respective Departments and suggested the ways and means for further developments of the departments and the institute. The Vice - Chancellor also conducted two special interactive sessions, one with the newly recruited Assistant Professors of the institute and the other with the UG and PG co-ordinators and students counselors.

Vice – Chancellor's visit to Kanyakumari Parakkai Centre for Sustainable Aquaculture (KKPCeSA)

Dr. S.Felix, Vice – Chancellor, Tamil Nadu Fisheries University visited the Kanyakumari Parakkai Centre for Sustainable Aquaculture (KKPCeSA) on 04.07.2017. The Vice – Chancellor was received by Dr. J. Stephen Sampath kumar, Director CeSA and Dr. K. Ravaneshwaran, Prof. and Head of the centre. The Vice – Chancellor



inspected the ornamental fish farm unit of the centre and conducted a review of all the HoDs of the CeSA.

TNFU-TNFDC - Stakeholders meet

The inter fisheries stakeholders meet among Tamil Nadu Fisheries University (TNFU), Tamil Nadu Fisheries



Development Corporation (TNFDC), Entrepreneurs and Self Help Groups (SHGs) was held at the FCRI, Ponneri on 19.07.2017. This meeting was conducted to improve per capita consumption of fish through popularization of fish and fishery products and to raise the income of SHGs and entrepreneurs by the marketing support of TNFDC's five modern stalls and 10 mobile stalls. The entrepreneurs trained by FCRI, Ponneri are supported to produce and market their value added fish products in the brand name of FCRI, Ponneri, "Pulicat Omega" with FSSAI certification. The modalities to develop a business plan was discussed in the meeting in the presence of Dr. S. Felix, Vice - Chancellor, Dr. D. Sukumar, Director, FTTIC – PH and Th. Jude Amstrong, MD, TNFDC, Chennai.

Participation in Agri-Intex 2017

The TNFU participated in the 17th Edition of Agri-Intex 2017 exhibition organized by the CODISSIA at Coimbatore during the period from 14.07.2017 to 17.07.2017. In the exhibition stall of the TNFU, exhibits and displays on culturable species of fishes, popular ornamental fish varieties, value added fish products, fisheries technologies, educational DVDs on fisheries technologies, health benefits of eating fish and important activities of TNFU and publications of the university were



displayed. TNFU stall was visited by more than 50,000 visitors. TNFU publications and value – added fish products produced at the university were also sold in the exhibition.

RESEARCH CORNER

Review of URPs by the Director of Research

Dr.G.Jeyasekaran, Director of Research i/c, TNFU reviewed the University Research Project proposals of the Assistant Professors of FCRI, Ponneri on 10th July 2017. He suggested suitable changes and modifications for the



acceptance of the URP proposals. A total of seven URP proposals were reviewed. Dr.Cheryl Antony, Dean i/c , Dr.S. Balasundari, Professor and Head , DFPT and the members of the 3Ps committee were also present during the review.

An Economic analysis of Indian major carps seed production in Thanjavur district

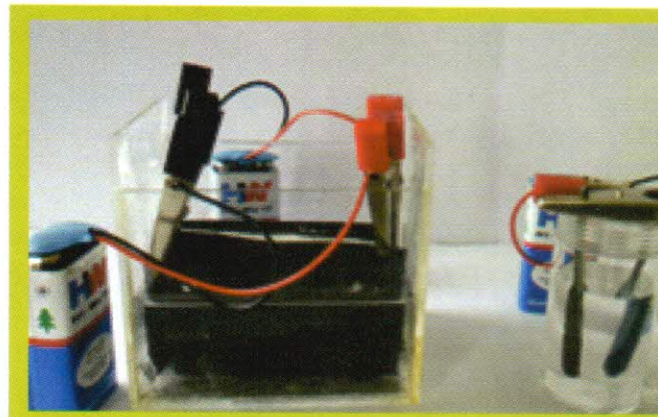
The benefit cost ratio of IMC seed production in this district was estimated to be 2.45. The district has an excess supply of carp seeds. The various constraints perceived by the respondents were ranked, analysed by Rank Based Quotient method (RBQ). Short supply of water was the major constraint faced by the seed producers.

(K.Vignesh & V.Senthilkumar)

Preparation of porous carbon derived from low cost biomass for desalination of ground water by capacitive deionization

A conducting paste was prepared using porous carbon and/or metal nanowire/conducting polymer for

fabrication of electrodes. A capacitive deionization (CDI) model was fabricated using these electrodes and tested for its efficiency. The rate of deionization of ground water was about 60%. Meanwhile, spherical electrodes were also prepared using the same conducting paste which can be used for electrodialysis. In addition to the CDI experiment, the conducting paste was used to prepare a conducting thread. It is also noted that the conducting paste prepared in this project is also useful for designing circuit boards.



(Dr. D. Kesavan)

DBT - Anti-osteoporotic properties of Fish Bone Collagen Peptides

The Dept of Biotechnology, Govt. of India has sanctioned a new research project entitled "Bio-prospecting for anti-osteoporotic collagen peptides derived from fish bones" to Dr. R. Jeya Shakila, Prof. & Head, Dept. of Fish Quality Assurance and Management of the Fisheries College and Research Institute, Thoothukudi at a total cost of Rs. 59.48 lakh for a period of three years. The project will be jointly taken up by Prof. B. Senthil Kumaran of University of Hyderabad as a Multi-Institutional project. Under this project, fish bones discarded as wastes will be utilized for collagen peptides preparation by enzymatic hydrolysis. The project shall help us to develop a bioprocess technology for conversion of fish processing wastes into valuable functional products with health benefits.

(Dr. R. Jeyashakila, Dr. G. Jeyasekaran, Dr. V. Alamelu and Dr. V.Kalyiamurthi)

New PCR lab at TNFU campus for disease diagnosis

Twenty Shrimp samples were received from Nagapattinam, District under the TANII Scheme entitled "E- Fish Health Surveillance and Monitoring Network to improve Fisheries Production in Tamil Nadu" for Disease Monitoring. The samples were screened for WSSV, EHP, IHNV. The results showed that eight farm samples were positive for WSSV, four farm samples were positive for EHP 514bp primer and EHP 148 bp primer and all

samples showed negative for IHNV. Shrimp seed samples showed negative for WSSV, EHP and IHNV.

(Dr. A. Uma, Dr. N.V. Sujathkumar, Dr. D. Manikandavelu and Th. T. Anand)

STUDENTS' CORNER

NSS Special Camp

NSS special camp for the third year B.F.Sc. students of the FCRI, Ponneri was conducted at Kottaiuppam, Pazhaverkaadu for seven days from 24.07.2017 to 30.07.2017. The camp was inaugurated by Dr.Cheryl Antony, Dean i/c, on 24.07.2017 and Dr.S.Balasundari, Students' Co-ordinator, Rev. Fr. Allwin and



Mr.Kalaiarasan, NSS Officer were also present on the occasion. During the camp, the students volunteers were involved in activities such as village cleaning, conducting demonstrations on aquarium tank fabrication, aqua feed preparation, preparation of fish manure and silage, induced breeding of pearlspot fish, fish cutlet preparation, socio-economic survey and tree plantation at Senjimanagar. As part of the NSS camp, an eye camp and veterinary camp were also held for the benefit of the villagers.

FISH FARMERS DAY CELEBRATIONS

FCRI, Thoothukudi

The Fisheries College and Research Institute, Thoothukudi organized the National Fish Farmers Day on 10.07.2017. Participants including fish farmers, fisheries entrepreneurs, rural folk and aqua industries



personnel from in and around Thoothukudi district participated. Dr.A.Srinivasan, Dean i/c presided over the function and spoke on the water resources available for fish culture in India and Tamilnadu and their importance for freshwater fish culture for enhancing fish production.

Thanjavur Centre for Sustainable Aquaculture (TCeSA)

A Focused Group Discussion on "Optimization of Income through Fish Farming" was held with the fish farmers at Thanjavur Centre for Sustainable Aquaculture (TCeSA). Dr.J.Stephen Sampathkumar, Director, DCeSA



inaugurated the event and in his address highlighted the farmer - oriented services offered by TNFU. He explained the farmers about the importance of Fish Farmers Day. Dr.K.Subramanian, Thanjavur District Development Manager, NABARD and Shri. Vijayaraghavan, Manager, Indian Overseas Bank delivered the felicitation addresses. Dr.V.Senthilkumar, Assistant Professor and Head i/c, co-ordinated the event.

Parakkai CeSA and Ganapathipuram CeSA

Kanyakumari Parakkai Centre for Sustainable Aquaculture (KKPCeSA) and Kanyakumari Ganapathipuram Centre for Sustainable Aquaculture (KKGCESA) jointly celebrated Fish Farmers' day on July 10, 2017 at Parakkai. In commemoration of the day, an interactive meeting on "Career Opportunities in



Aquaculture" was arranged by Dr. C. Judith Betsy, Assistant Professor, KKGCESA. Students and Staff from Department of Biotechnology, Udaya College of

Engineering, Vellamadi, Kanyakumari district attended the program. Totally 37 students and 6 staff participated in the interactive meeting. Dr. K. Ravanewaran, Professor and Head, KKPCeSA gave a lecture on "Status of Aquaculture in India". Following that, Dr. C. Judith Betsy delivered a lecture on "Research Opportunities in Aquaculture Biotechnology" and interacted with the students on various aspects of aquaculture biotechnology.

Erode Centre for Sustainable Aquaculture (ECeSA)

The Erode Centre for Sustainable Aquaculture (ECeSA), Bhavanisagar organized a meeting at a village viz., Masanur on 10.07.2017 to create awareness among the young farmers and inland fisherfolk on ornamental fish culture. Dr. S. Aanand, Asst. professor and Head, ECeSA explained the scope and prospects for ornamental fish culture and the resources available in the region. The program really inspired the participants and three participants came forward to take up ornamental fish culture activity in the region and sought technical support and guidance of ECeSA for this activity.

Ramanathapuram Centre for Sustainable Aquaculture (RCeSA)

Fish farmers involved in the culture of seaweed, lobsters and marine ornamental fishes were invited to the centre on the occasion on 10.07.2017. Two technical lectures on milkfish production and marine ornamental fish farming were delivered. Preparation of pond,

Krishnagiri Centre for Sustainable Aquaculture (KCeSA)

A front-line demonstration on "All male Tilapia farming" was conducted by Dr.P. Chidambaram, Associate Professor and Head and Mr.R.Vignesh, Farm Manager, KCeSA at a farm at Kaveripattinam. In an event organized at Thalamaduvu, Kaveripattinam Block of Krishnagiri District, inputs like mineral mixture and



probiotics were supplied to the farmers. All the major ingredients for feed preparation were exhibited and feed preparation demonstration was also conducted. A manual on Tilapia farming was also provided.

TRAININGS CONDUCTED

Three-day training on shrimp farming

Fisheries College and Research Institute, Thoothukudi conducted a three - day training on Shrimp Farming from 10.07.2017 to 12.07.2017. Trainees from Trichy and Pune participated. During this programme, various aspects in shrimp farming along with demonstrations were taught to the participants. After this exposure, all the participants were taken to shrimp farm at Veppalodai and Palayakayal regions for gaining practical knowledge. Dr.G.Sugumar, Dean distributed the certificates to the participants. Dr.S.Athithan, Professor and Head, Mariculture Research Farm Facility, Dept. of Aquaculture, FCRI, Thoothukudi coordinated this training program.

Training on Pearl spot breeding and culture techniques

Fisheries College and Research Institute, Ponneri organized a three-day training program on "Pearl spot breeding and its culture techniques" under NADP (2016-17) Project from 24.07.2017 to 26.07.2017 at Pulicat Research Farm Facility (PRFF), Pazhaverkadu. A total of 65 trainees attended the program. Th. Samuel Moses, Asst. Professor, CO-PI (NADP) coordinated this training program.

Training on Innovative techniques in fish farming

A NADP funded training program on innovative techniques in fish farming was conducted on 21.07.2017 at the ECeSA, Bhavanisagar, Erode Dt. The program was targeted at new fish farmers of the district. A total of 35



stocking, feeding and marketing of milkfish fry were explained to the fish farmers. Availability of milkfish seed resources in this region was outlined to the farmers. Similarly collection of the indigenous marine ornamental finfish *Amphiprion sebae*, conditioning, feeding, breeding, livefeed scale-up, grow-out of the larvae and marketing were also explained to the farmers.

On the occasion, an experienced seaweed farmer, Mr.M.Rajendrakumar, shared his experiences in seaweed farming. Folders prepared in Tamil containing information about the milk fish culture were distributed to the participants. Dr. C. Anand, Asst. Professor and Head i/c., RCeSA made all arrangements for this program.



participants including women from the region attended the program. Dr. S. Aanand, Asst. professor and Head, ECeSA co-ordinated this program.

Training on preparation of value added fishery products

A one-day training program on "Preparation of value added fishery products" was conducted at Kanyakumari Ganapathipuram Centre for Sustainable Aquaculture (KKGCeSA) on 05.07.2017. Dr. J. Stephen Sampathkumar, Director, DCeSA talked on the role of value added fishery



products in enhancing the livelihood of women and need to form cluster groups among themselves in order to take this to next level. A total of 29 women from Paruthivilai, Rajakkamangalam and Kovilpuram attended the training. Mr. P. Sunil Kumar, Office Attendant, KKPCeSA demonstrated the preparation of value added fishery products to the trainees.

Awareness program on Fish Health Surveillance

An awareness program was conducted on 13.07.2017 by the Fisheries Research and Extension Centre (FREC), TNFU Madhavaram Campus under the TANII scheme entitled "E-Fish Health Surveillance and Monitoring Network to Improve Fisheries Production in Tamilnadu (Sc.No.XV-102-04)" to address the technical queries of fish and shrimp farmers of Tiruvallur district. The program was jointly organized by Tamil Nadu Fisheries University with the Reliance Foundation utilizing their Jio Chat Facility for the dissemination of information on disease

management practices to improve the aquaculture production of the state. Technical queries were sent by the farmers from the field along with the photographs through Whatsapp. Their queries were replied by Dr.A.Uma, Professor and Head of the centre and Principal investigator (TANII scheme) with suitable recommendations over phone from the State Referral Laboratory for Aquatic Animal Health. A total of 22 farmers sent queries in this novel program.

TNFU Academy (TNFUA), Chennai

Guest lecture on disaster management

As a part of the in-service training to the State Fisheries Dept. technical staff at the TNFU Academy, Chennai guest lectures on various aspects of disaster management were delivered by Mr. A. Nandhakumar and Mr. Kasi Vishwanathan, Inspector of Fisheries, NDRF on 06.07.2017.

In-service trainees field tours

A training programme on "Breeding, seed production and culture of Asian cat fish (magur)" was arranged for the regular in-service trainees at CIFA, Odisha from



13.07.2017 to 17.07.2017. The topics covered included breeding, seed production and culture of Asian catfish (Magur), disease diagnosis, treatment and control measures, water quality parameters, integrated farming, aquaponics systems, analysis and identification of plankton, and farm design and layout. Totally 10 trainees (Sub Inspector of Fisheries) attended the training program.

Chief Minister's Announcement in the assembly under 110 for TNFU.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu made the following four important announcements in the Assembly Meeting under rule 110 on 14.07.2017.

- Establishment of New Fisheries College and Research Institute at Thalainayeru, Vedaranyam Taluk, Nagapattinam Dist. and a budget outlay of Rs. 28.82 crore will be provided for this cause in the first phase.

- Establishment of Two Para Professional Institutes of Fisheries Technology at Royapuram, Chennai and Muttukadu, Kanchipuram Dist. with a budget outlay of Rs. 13.80 crores.
- Establishment of an 'Aquatic Rainbow Mall' at Madhavaram with a budget outlay of Rs. 2.5 crores.
- Commencement of a new PG course on Fisheries Business Management (M.B.A. in Fisheries Enterprises Management) will be offered at the IPGS campus, OMR, Chennai.

Announcement of Hon'ble Minister for Fisheries in the Assembly

- Conducting training and demonstrations for improving the skills of aqua farmers of Tamil Nadu through the centres of TNFU at an outlay of Rs.1.0053 cr.
- Establishment of Fish Processing Technology Parks and Incubation Centres under TNFU at Nagapattinam with an outlay of Rs.1.15 cr. for the benefit of self help groups and youths.
- Increasing the number of seats for undergraduate program in fisheries science at Thoothukudi campus of TNFU from 50 to 60.
- Creating endowments for Rs.15.00 lakh collected from aquaculture industrial establishments to give awards to honour the academic achievements of the students of TNFU every year.
- Providing Rs.2.27cr. to fulfil the manpower requirements of the Institute of Post Graduate Studies in Fisheries, Vaniyanchavadi, OMR, Chennai.

- Establishment of Deep Sea Fishing Technology Training Institutes at Thoothukudi and Thoothur, Kanniyakumari District at an outlay of Rs.3.82 cr.

VC's July events

- Participated in the National Convention on Digital Initiatives for Higher Education organized by the UGC at Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi on 09.07.2017 & 10.07.2017.
- Attended the Assembly session on 11.07.2017.
- Participated in the unveiling of AVVAIYAR Statue at Raj Bhavan, Chennai on 14.07.2017.
- Attended the Academic Council Meeting of TNFU held on 20.07.2017. Dr. Chada, Principal Scientist, CIFE and Dr. Dr. M.N. Venugopal, Dean, CoF, Mangalore attended the meeting as external experts with other members.
- Participated in the Foundation Day Program of NABARD at Chennai on 26.07.2017. Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu attended the event.
- Visited Trichy for selection of site and met the District Collector for pursuing the matter on site allotment for establishing a new Centre for Sustainable Aquaculture on 27.07.2017.
- Inaugurated the Fish Feed Extruder at Muttukadu DFTTIC-A on 28.07.2017. This center will cater to the fish feed requirements of all the TNFU centres.

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