

International Fisheries Conference on Challenges and Opportunities for Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture Development (COSFAD, 2019): A Brief Report

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College of Fisheries, Ratnagiri of Dr. Balasaheb Sawant Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth, Dapoli in collaboration with Inter-disciplinary Society for Advancement of Agricultural Science and Technology (ISASaT), Dapoli organized International Conference on “Challenges and Opportunities for Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture Development” (COSFAD, 2019) at College of Fisheries, Ratnagiri during 17 to 20 January, 2019. This is the first International Conference held with respect to Fisheries and Aquaculture in Maharashtra in recent years.

The International Conference was inaugurated by lighting of the lamp by the auspicious hands of Dr. J. K. Jena, DDG (Fisheries), ICAR, New Delhi; Dr. S. Felix, Vice Chancellor, Dr. J. Jaylalitha University, Tamil Nadu; Dr. Gopal Krishna, Director and Vice Chancellor, ICAR-Central Institute of Fisheries Education, Mumbai; Dr. S. D. Tripathi, former Director and Vice Chancellor, ICAR-Central Institute of Fisheries Education, Mumbai; Dr. Tapas Bhattacharyya, former Vice Chancellor, Dr. Balasaheb Sawant Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth, Dapoli; Dr. P. M. Haldankar, Director of Research, Dr. Balasaheb Sawant Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth, Dapoli and Dr. H. S. Dhaker, Dean, Faculty of Fisheries, Ratnagiri.

The conference was graced by eminent fisheries scientist all over the world. Among them, Dr. Martin Santha Kumar from Australia, Dr. Sadashiv J. Kaushik from Spain, Dr. Suttavar Benjakul, Dr. Amarratne Yakupitiyage, Dr. Thummannun Prodpran from Thailand, Dr. La Win from Myanmar, Dr. Le Than Lu from Vietnam.

Distinguished scientists from India who participated in the International Conference were Dr. V. V. Sugunan, Dr. Sudhir Raizada, Dr. Dilip Kumar, Dr. I. S. Bright Singh, Dr. A. K. Singh, Dr. Ravishankar C. N., Dr. P. Pravin, Dr. L. Ramlingam, Dr. Rajit Susilan, Dr. Anil Sharma, Dr. Aparna Chaudhari, Dr. Jitendra Kumar Sundaray, Dr. M. S. Shivprakash, Dr. Shivanand Murthy, Dr. Sally Thomas, Dr. Arvind Untawale, Dr. Sarang Kulkarni, Dr. A. K. Jain, Dr. Shivkumar Magdha, Dr. Shekhar Kovale, Dr. V. P. Joshi, Shri. Sandip Ahirrao, Shri. Deepak Chaudhari, Shri. Vijay Deshpande, Shri. Ramdas Sandhe, Dr. S. G. Raje, Shri. Pandit Chavan, Shri. Hasan Mhasalai, Shri. Vijay Shikhare, and others.

In the keynote address Dr. Martin Santha Kumar discussed “Fisheries and Aquaculture for Food Security and Nutrition: Global and Indian Perspective”, Dr. J. K. Jena spoke on “New Paradigms in Indian Aquaculture: Happiness, Health and Hope”, Dr. S. Felix enlightened about “Need for Advancements and Advocacies in Indian Aquaculture” while Dr. Gopal Krishna presented the scenario of higher fisheries education in India.

Total 34 lead lectures, 41 papers and 82 posters were presented by the scientists under eleven major themes namely; Fish biology and Fisheries Management, Ecology and Aquatic Biodiversity, Fisheries Administration and Policies, Advancement in Seed Production Systems, Nutrition and Feeding Practices, Sustainable Production Systems, Health and Environment Management, Advances in Harvest Technologies, Recent Trends in Aquatic Product Processing, Fisheries Economics and World Trade, Fisheries Extension and Capacity Building. Besides, there were special sessions for Fish/Shrimp farmers, Aqua farmers and Fisheries entrepreneurs.

On the occasion of the International Conference, a Souvenir containing 44 lead paper abstracts was released along with the 'Book of Abstracts'.

The conference was concluded with Plenary session in which 36 recommendations were presented and discussed thoroughly. These recommendations have been submitted to Government Agencies to frame the specific policies for sustainable fisheries and aquaculture development in India to overcome the present challenges and to grab the future opportunities in sustainable manner. Proceedings & Recommendations of the International Conference have been published recently.

This International Conference was organized under the Guidance of Dr. K. P. Vishwanatha, Vice Chancellor, Dr. B. S. Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth, Dapoli; Dr. Tapas Bhattacharyya, former Vice Chancellor, Dr. Balasaheb Sawant Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth, Dapoli. This conference was convened by Dr. H. S. Dhaker, Dean, Faculty of Fisheries, Ratnagiri and Dr. A. S. Mohite, Professor and Head of The Department, College of Fisheries, Ratnagiri was the Organizing Secretary.