

Foundation Day Platinum Jubilee Celebrations (70th anniversary celebrations) of ICAR- Vizhinjam Research Centre of CMFRI, Vizhinjam, Thiruvananthapuram

The Foundation day celebrations at the ICAR- Vizhinjam Research Centre of CMFRI, Vizhinjam, Thiruvananthapuram commenced at 10.30 am. The programme comprised of honouring of the retired staff of the centre, scientific, technical and administration with the traditional “*Ponnada*” and presentation of memento to the retired staff by the Scientist-in-Charge Dr.M.K.Anil. A total of 38 staff members participated on the occasion. Among the notable speakers on this occasion were Dr. G.P.K Achary, Dr. Lazarus, Dr.K.K. Appukuttan, Dr. G.Gopakumar, Dr.A.P.Lipton and Dr.Rani Mary George who spoke on the occasion. Dr.G.P.K Achary one of the doyens in mussel mariculture spoke of his earliest experiences in mariculture at the Centre. Dr. Lazarus also recalled with reverence the stalwarts of yester years like Dr.Kuthalingam, Dr.Sekhar and few others who were no more, but who merited the attention of posterity by their unparalleled contributions in fishery biology and mariculture sciences, at the centre. Dr. Appukuttan was of the opinion that over the years, the infrastructural facilities had multiplied manifold, and subsequently achievements of the centre was expected to increase proportionately. Dr. Gopakumar said that, one of the yardsticks to measure the developments and progress in fisheries science was to assess the socio-economic impact on the fishermen community/target group. He said that research was complete in all respects only if the benefits of research reached the end users. He called upon the young scientists and future researchers to focus their attention for the betterment of the socio-economic status of the fisher folk by application of the results of research in the field.

The foundation day celebrations were followed by “Open house” programmes consisting of free admission to visitors and general public to the centre’s marine aquarium “*Sagarika*”. The participants were also entertained by the performance of solo and group songs rendered by the staff members.



Group photo of the stalwarts and staff members



Dr.Jasmine highlighting the achievements made by Dr. K.K. Appukuttan



Dr.G.Gopakumar sharing his research experiences