

NEWS, AWARDS/HONOURS

Prof. M.J. MODAYIL, Ph.D., D.Sc. MEMBER, A.S.R.B.



Professor Mohan Joseph Modayil who is currently Member, Agricultural Scientists Recruitment Board, New Delhi is an accomplished academician-researcher-manager with 38 years of work experience in various spheres of fisheries in India and abroad. He has a first class Masters in Marine Biology and Fisheries from Kerala University, Ph.D. in Bio Science from Mysore University and D.Sc. in Aquatic Biology and Fisheries from Kerala University. He had his postdoctoral research at the School of Marine Sciences, University of North Wales, United Kingdom. He is also an Elected Fellow of the Zoological Society of London. The areas of his specialization include Marine Biology, Marine Fisheries, Fisheries Management, Coastal Mariculture, Fisheries Governance and Policy, Research Management, Development and Administration, Human Resource Development & Management, Postgraduate Research Guidance.

He started his research work on marine cryptofauna along the south east coast of India which was a pioneering study to understand the interrelationships of cryptofauna to marine algae. He started his academic career in the area of manpower development at the College of Fisheries of the University of Agricultural Sciences where he served in various capacities for 30 years and while leaving held the position of Professor and University Head of Department of Fisheries Resources and Management. He was selected to the position of Director, Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Cochin in 2000 which he held till December 2007 when he moved over to the Agricultural Scientists Recruitment Board as Member (Animal Sciences) after being selected by a National Search Committee.

During the past 38 years of his service to the country, he has been instrumental in developing need based course curriculum for the professional fisheries education in the country. He has been an excellent teacher in the field of taxonomy, population dynamics, estuarine biology, molluscan biology and ecophysiology. His research on the biology and population dynamics of marine bivalves has been noteworthy. In the field of reproductive biology, his scheme of classification of maturity of bivalves has been adopted as a standard tool by other workers. In the early seventies, he was able to demonstrate the feasibility of growing mussels and edible oysters in the backwaters of the south west coast. He, along with the large number of students who worked with him, developed a school of thought on the reproductive strategies of marine bivalves in the Indian waters. His work on developmental research took him on assignments in the Philippines, Thailand, Malaysia, Islamic Republic of Iran and West Indies. He also visited USA, Canada, Australia, UAE, China, Singapore, Thailand for various short assignments. He had coordinated and IDRC and DFID Projects in India with extremely useful developmental outputs.

He has edited over a dozen books and has over 100 research publications, 50 articles, numerous reports, bulletins, Special Publications and a dozen invited book chapters. He served as Managing Editor, Indian Journal of Fisheries (2000 to 2007), Editor in Chief, Journal of Marine Biological Association of India (2000 to 2007), President, Marine Biological Association of India (2000 to 2007), Council Member, Asian Fisheries Society, Philippines (2005 Onwards), Member, Academic Council, Kerala University, Member, Academic Council, Kerala Agricultural University, Member, Senate, Cochin University of Science & Technology, Consultant/ Researcher to IDRC in Philippines, Thailand, Malaysia, West Indies, Consultant for IFRTO, Islamic Republic of Iran, Faculty Attachment at the University of North Wales, U.K., Programme Coordinator, DFID Project of the British Government, India, Chairman, National Committee on Monsoon Trawl Ban, Member, National Coastal Zone Authority, National Exotic Species Committee, National Biodiversity Committee, Member, Editorial Board of Indian Journal of Marine Science, Indian Hydrobiology, President, Marine Biological Association of India, Vice President Asian Fisheries Society Indian branch.

His service as Director, Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute for the seven years from 2000 to 2007 resulted in great advancements for the CMFRI which has been turned in to a world class organization through his administrative, research and financial management initiatives, proving his abilities as an able administrator. For the first time in the country, he pioneered Open Sea Cage Mariculture of Finfishes, flagging a historic leap in fish farming initiatives in India. The recently concluded 8th International Asian Fisheries Forum is a standing testimony for his organizational abilities.

ANNOUNCEMENT

VIth Regional Conference

Nutritional Interventions to Improve Animal Production

On

15th October, 2008

Venue

Animal Nutrition Department, College of Veterinary Science, Tirupati.

VIth Regional conference of Animal Nutrition society of India, South zone is being organized in collaboration with Sri Venkateswara Veterinary University, Tirupati with the theme “Nutritional interventions to improve animal production” on 15th October, 2008 (Wednesday) at Animal Nutrition Department, College of Veterinary Science, Tirupati. The conference will be focusing on different areas of technological advances in various aspects of Animal Nutrition and allied subjects during the technical deliberations. It includes presentation of lead papers on the feed processing technologies developed on feed resources by eminent Scientist / Policy makers. There will be a Farmer-Industry and Scientist interaction on current and emerging Animal Nutrition issues for improving livestock production.

Further information can be obtained form Professor J. Rama Prasad, organizing secretary, ANSI, South University Professor & Head, Department of Animal Nutrition, College of Veterinary Science, Sri Venkateswara Veterinary University, Tirupati – 517 502.

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Dr. Chander Datt honoured with Young Scientist Award

Dr. Chander Datt working as Scientist, SS (Animal Nutrition) at ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Tripura Centre, Lembucherra was conferred with Dr. K. Pradhan Young Scientist Award (2005-07) on October 4, 2007 during the inaugural session of International Tropical Nutrition Conference-2007 (Tropnutricon-2007) which was held from Oct. 4 to 7, 2007 at National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal (Haryana) auditorium. Dr. Dayanand Dongaonkar, Secretary General of Association of Indian Universities was the Chief Guest of the function. The Conference was held under the aegis of Animal Nutrition Society of India (ANSI). Other dignitaries on the dais included Dr. Sushil Kumar, Director, National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal, Haryana, Dr. E.R. Orskov, an eminent animal nutritionist from U.K. Dr. K.K. Singhal, Organising Secretary of the conference, Dr. T.K. Walli, President, ANSI and Dr. S.N. Rai, Secretary, ANSI. Dr. K. Pradhan, an internationally acclaimed animal nutritionist, presented the award to Dr. Datt. About 500 reputed animal scientists, educationists and people from feed industry from India and abroad (USA, UK, France, Italy, Germany, Iran, Sri Lanka, Gambia etc.) attended this conference. The award has been conferred on Dr. Chander Datt in recognition of his research work carried out in the field of Animal Nutrition. He worked on nutritional evaluation of local feed resources of Tripura and also on the introduced cultivated forages. He also studied the essential mineral status of soils, feed/fodders and cattle in Tripura so that corrective measures could be taken in case of imbalance/deficiency.

Earlier, he was presented with ASPEE Gold Medal for graduation (B.Sc. (Hons.) Agriculture). He was honoured with Jawahar Lal Nehru Award-1999 (National Award) for his Ph. D. work for outstanding contribution in the field of animal nutrition. He joined as Scientist at ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Tripura Centre in January, 1999. He also received Best Paper Award-2006 presented by Indian Dairy Association, New Delhi. His biography was published in "Marquis Who's Who-2007" (USA) and International Biographical Centre (UK) for his excellent academic record. He has 15 research articles, 40 research abstract papers, 15 popular articles, 4 book chapters, 3 book/bulletins and 4 booklets/scientific folders to his credit.

Announcement

The CEC of ANSI in its meeting held on 19/07/2008, decided to confer one biennial ANSI **award of Rs. 5000/-** to be shared equally by authors in addition to the existing Dr. S. P. Arora best paper award so as to recognize the quality research contribution in the form of published research articles in the Indian Journal of Animal Nutrition. All the research workers in India and abroad are requested to send their quality manuscripts, to chief editor, IJAN, so as to compete for the above two awards.

(Dr. S. S. Thakur)
Secretary,
ANSI, NDRI Karnal