A.V.V.M. Sri Pushpam College (Autonomous)
Poondi– 613 503, Thanjavur-Dt, Tamilnadu
*(Affiliated to Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli – 620 024)*

## 3.7.1 Number of Collaborative activities per year for research/ faculty exchange/ student exchange/ internship/ on –the-job training/ project work

# Collaborating Agency:

**Dr. S. Raveendran Khadir Mohideen College, Adhirampattinam**

**Dr. R. RAJAKUMAR**
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Associate Professor
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KhadirMohideen College
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Tamilnadu, India.

**Date:** 15.06.2016

# LINKAGE

**For the year 2016-2017**

**Between**

1. **Dr. R.RAJAKUMAR**
Associate Professor &Head,s
PG & Research Department of Zoology
A.V.V.M Sri Pushpam College
(Autonomous),
Poondi – 613 503.Thanjavur Dt.

&

2. **Dr.S.RAVEENDRAN**
Associate Professor
PG & Research Dept. Of Zoology,
KhadirMohideen College
Adhirampattinam – 614 701
Thiruvarur Dt. Tamil nadu.

Considering the significance of the noble cause for the student community, we have come forward to collaborate with each other to exchange research knowledge, expertise, laboratory and library facilities to the process of scientific research and education in the field of Biodiversity of Ichthyofauna. The parties (mentioned above as 1. & 2.) have had preliminary discussion in this matter and have ascertained areas of broad consensus. The parties now therefore agreed to enter in writing these avenues of consensus, under a flexible linkage, and this project aims to fill the gap between knowledge demand and subject expertise related to the mentioned field.

***Joint Responsibilities***

- Sharing of laboratory facilities, library resources, database etc.,
- Joint Publication of research articles, books, magazines, bulletins etc.,
- Jointly organizing conferences, seminars, symposia and workshops.
- Submitting joint proposals for research funding from agencies like UGC, CSIR, DST and TNSCST.

**Dr.R.RAJAKUMAR**

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15/6/16

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# DIVERSITY OF ICHTHYOFAUNA IN VEDARANYAM MANGROVES OF SOUTH EAST COAST, NAGAPPATINAM DISTRICT, TAMIL NADU, INDIA

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## ABSTRACT

Fishery resources are renewable. But overfishing has caused irreversible effects, so the fisheries can be conserved and maintained so as to provide optimum yield on a continuing basis. The present study was carried out to know the biodiversity of fishes in Vedaranyam mangroves, Nagapattinam district. The results showed that there are 35 species belongs to 26 families were identified. The present study establishes to conserve fish biodiversity.

**Keywords.** Ichthyofaunal diversity, Gastropods, Bivalves, Vedaranyam mangroves, Nagapattinam district.

## INTRODUCTION

The coastal zone of India endowed with a very wide range of coastal ecosystem such as estuaries, lagoons, mangroves, backwaters, salt marshes, rocky coasts, sandy stretches and coral reefs is characterized by unique biotic and abiotic properties and processes. Indian mangroves areas are excellent nursery grounds for a variety of commercially important prawns, crabs and fin fishes, as they provide abundant food and shelter for these organisms. The ecosystem provides food, roosting and nesting site and shelter to a large variety of birds. Several insects, reptiles, birds and mammals inhabit the evergreen canopies of mangroves support many tropic levels of aquatic and terrestrial organisms, by enriching the fertility of estuarine waters for production of planktons.

The ecologically significant and biologically diverse mangrove forests, wedged between the land and sea, act as an effective buffer against destructive cyclones and violent tidal storms that lash the coastal stretch with unchecked fury. Indeed, the deadly Tsunami of December 2004, which left behind a trail of death and destruction in coastal settlements in India and parts of South-East Asia. It did not cause any much damage in Tamil Nadu's Point Calimere, Muthupettai and Pitchavaram thanks to the dense and luxuriant mangrove cover (Saravanan, 2005).

It is precisely for this reason that eminent agricultural scientist M.S. Swaminathan, has all along been vigorously advocating the need to conserve mangrove forests that thrive well in the brackish wetlands between the land and the sea where other types of vegetation hardly grow Balaji (2003).

India has a vast coastline of 8118 km distributed in nine coastal states and four union territories with an estuarine area of 3.9 million ha and 3.5 million ha of back waters. Though India contributes about 40 % of the fish landings of the Indian ocean, when viewed against the world production of 130 million tons, India's contribution is only 5.65 million tons (2.83 million tons from marine fisheries and 2.82 million tons from Inland fisheries) representing about 4.37 % only (Source: Fisheries Development Mission Document).

Fishing is one of the oldest occupations of human kind, which provides a rich and easily available source of protein, and it plays a vital role in improving the dietary standards. Tamil Nadu is one of the important Maritime States with rich inland and marine resources. Tamil Nadu is gifted with rich fishery potential. It has 1076 km of coastline (15 per cent of the country's coastline), 0.19 million sq. km. of Exclusive Economic Zone (9.7 per cent of the India's EEZ), and a continental shelf of about 41,412 sq. km is a leading state in fish production. The state has a fishermen population of about 7.37 lakhs, of which 2.80 lakhs fishermen are actively engaged in fishing from 591 fishing villages. At present there are 12,000 mechanized fishing boats and 50,700 traditional crafts registered, of which 20,000 crafts have been motorized with outboard motors engaged in marine fishing. Indian fisheries have evolved from the stage of a domestic activity during the 1950s and 60s to a status of an industry by 1990s (Source: Fisheries Development Mission Document). A fishery is a sunrise sector of our economy. Its role in increasing food supply, generating job opportunities, raising nutritional level and earning foreign exchange has been important.

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