Smt. A. Malarkodi

A. Malarkodi is presently working as scientist D in National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), Chennai. She joined NIOT as Scientist B in 2002 and sincethe inception of Acoustic Test Facility (ATF) she has been involved in underwater acoustic measurement, characterization of underwater acoustic transducers and calibration for various in-house applications and the requirement of defence and civilian laboratories.

She played a major role in obtaining accreditation successfully for the Acoustic Test Facility from National Accreditation Board of Laboratories (NABL), New Delhi in the year 2004 and subsequent reaccreditation since then. She has been instrumental in establishing the vibrating water column based low frequency calibration setup at Acoustic Test Facility. She has also contributed to the up-gradation of facility by enhancing the measurement frequency range upto500kHz.

Inter Laboratory Comparison (ILC) has been taken up under the ocean acoustics program and she is successfully completed the inter laboratory comparison for primary calibration of hydrophones with the institutes Bundeswehr Technical Centre for Ships and Naval Weapons,Naval Technology and Research - WTD 71 , Germany and Russian National Research Institute for Physicotechnical and Radio Engineering, Measurements (VNIIFTRI), Russia. She is visited WTD 71, Germany and VNIIFTRI Russia for calibration of hydrophones as a part of ILC.

Apart from the above, she has been working for development of time reversal based underwater acoustic communication system. She has also participated in the field experiments of underwater acoustics based systems.

She is currently a member of IEEE Ocean Engineering Society, IEEE signal processing Society, and Ocean Society of India.

Ms. A. Malarkodi is awarded Certificate of Merit for her outstanding contributions in the field of Coastal Modelling.

Shri K. Annapurnaiah

Shri. K. Annapurnaiah received his M.Sc (Physics) from Osmania University and M.Tech (Atmospheric Sciences) from Andhra University. He joined INCOIS as Scientist in the year May 2007 and contributed significantly in the operationalisation of ocean state forecast system, deployment of wave rider buoys, near-real time reception of the buoy data and automation of dissemination mechanism of the ocean state forecast .

Currently, he is Scientist-in-Charge of Computational facilities . He is instrumental in the implementation and operationalisation of 7.2TF HPC system & porting of ocean models on to the HPC platform. As the system administrator of HPC, he ensures its uptime for 100% usability. He co-ordinated the task of parallelization of Tunami N2 model that reduced the wall-clock time and improved the performance. He has contributed significantly in finalizing the solution architecture for consolidation of storage and its implementation at INCOIS.

The other major contributions of Shri Annapurnaiah include the Administration of several desktops and servers, Network Management and IT Planning.

Shri K. Annapurnaiah is awarded Certificate of Merit for his outstanding contributions in the field of Information Services and Ocean Sciences.

Dr. D. Padmalal

Dr. D. Padmalal received his MSc (Marine Geology) and PhD (Mineralogy and geochemistry of sediments) degrees from Cochin University of Science and Technology (CUSAT), Kochi. He qualified UGC-NET and CSIR-SRF during his research career at CUSAT. In 1994, he joined in the Regional Research Laboratory (CSIR), Thiruvananthapuram as a Research Associate. The same year, Dr. Padmalal got placement in Centre for Earth Science Studies, Thiruvananthapuram as Scientist. Since then he has been actively involved in research on various aspects of Quaternary geology and Environmental geology. His research interests include studies of the Quaternary coastal evolution, paleoclimate, sea level changes, natural resource extraction and management.

Dr. Padmalal received INSA- DFG Exchange of Scientists Fellowship in 2004 and worked in the Centre for Marine Tropical Ecology, University of Bremen on the subject 'Geochemical fluxes and stable isotope estimations (δ N15 & δ C13) of river environments'. He undertook many studies on the various environmental problems of Kerala as per the directions of the Hon'ble High Court and Government of Kerala. His research works were instrumental in bringing the legislation 'Kerala River Bank Protection and Sand mining Regulation Act 2001'. His studies have unfolded the Late Quaternary evolutionary history of the coastal landforms in the southern Kerala coast. In 2012, he attended the IPC XIII/IOPC IX 2012 Symposium held at Chuo University, Tokyo, Japan. He was recipient of the Rajiv Gandhi Excellence Award (2001), instituted by India International Friendship Society, New Delhi. He was a member of the National Working Group for IGCP – 495. He is life member of several scientific societies and reviewer of many national and international journals in Geo-environmental studies. Three students took PhD under his guidance. He has 60 research papers in peer reviewed National and International journals, 20 papers in edited books, 50 full length papers in conferences/seminars and 1 web paper (Commissioned Paper) to his credit. He has authored recently a monograph titled "Late Quaternary climate, sea level changes and coastal evolution" published by the Centre for Earth Science Studies and a book titled "Sand Mining – Environmental Impacts and Selected Case Studies" published by Springer Verlag .

Dr. D. Padmalal is awarded Certificate of Merit for his outstanding contributions in the field of Quaternary Geology and Environmental Geology.

Shri Telson Noronha

Sh. Telson Noronha joined MoES in November 1991. During his long service at this Ministry, he was involved with the various scientific and technical activities of CMLRE especially in the co-ordination and management of FORV Sagar Sampada and the Marine Living Resources Programme of Ministry. During this period, apart from his basic qualifications in Engineering, he acquired additional degrees in Information Technology, Business Administration and post graduation in Geoinformatics. He is presently pursuing his PhD on Ocean Science and Technology.

Sh. Telson has participated in 59 scientific cruises onboard FORV Sagar Sampada and other Vessels including the First Indian Krill Expedition to Antarctic waters (FIKEX 1995) and Pilot Expedition for Southern Ocean Studies (PESOS-2004) for data collection using various scientific, acoustic and analytical equipment, fishing in deep sea waters, calibration of scientific equipment, sea trials for performance of the research vessels, installation and commissioning of sophisticated scientific equipment, deck machinery and hydraulic system. He was also actively involved in cruise planning and conduct of scientific workshops, conduct of meetings pertaining to TEC, VMC, SAC and RAC Meetings and International meetings like WG-EMM of CCAMLR in India. Besides his contribution on the technical side, he was also involved in fishery acoustic studies, fish finding and harvesting techniques, target strength measurements of live fish using acoustic equipment etc. The other additional jobs carried out by him include, augmentation of research facilities, planning for new fishery oceanographic research vessel, assimilation of cruise data, database generation and GIS based Information system, conduct exhibitions on Ocean Awareness, computerized inventory of scientific equipment and spares onboard FORV Sagar Sampada for effective management.

The whole hearted efforts taken by Sh.Telson Noronha since 1991, enabled FORV Sagar Sampada to run in good condition even today after a span of almost 30 years since delivery of the vessel. He has gained immense experience with vessel management, on hand experience at various ports and dry docks (shipyards in India, Dubai and Colombo), official agencies like Mercantile Marine Department, Director General of Shipping etc. and have supervised all the dry docking of the vessel during 1992 till date. The timely actions taken for the augmentation of the facilities onboard with state-of-the-art machinery and deck winches now helps in undertaking full-fledged trouble free scientific cruises including fishing to depths of above 1000m for the implementation of MLR and other programs of user agencies. Sh.Telson

Noronha has also assisted in conducting successful meetings such as high level Cruise Planning and Priorities Committee, RAC, SAC, JSTAC and TAC for many years for formulating periodic planning, implementation and monitoring of scientific cruises and maintenance of scientific equipment. Sh. Telson Noronha had been the backbone since the initial stages of planning and implementation of the MLR programs and was member of various Task Forces for monitoring of these programs.

Presently, he is involved with vessel management, Southern Ocean MLR programme, CCAMLR matters, acquisition of new Fishery Oceanographic Research Vessel and related matters.

Shri Telson Noronha is awarded Certificate of Merit for his outstanding contributions in the field of Southern Ocean Marine Living Resources.

Dr. Uma Sankar Panda

Dr. Uma Sankar Panda has obtained his MSc (Oceanography), MPhil (Physical Oceanography) and PhD in Marine Sciences from Department of Marine Sciences, Berhampur University, Odisha. He joined Integrated Coastal and Marine Area Management-Project Directorate (ICMAM-PD) in July, 2009.

Dr. Panda has significantly contributed in ecosystem modelling of Chilika lagoon by setting up a coupled hydro-ecological model. The model serves as a potential tool for understanding the complex lagoonal processes to develop strategies for water quality management. He was also involved in ecosystem modelling for Sundarbans and Kochi backwaters. He was actively involved in formulation of shoreline management plan Gopalpur coast, Odisha and studied coastal circulation, wave transformation and sediment transport through numerical modelling and field investigations. At present, Dr.Panda is associated with water quality modelling for Chennai coast. His expertise in statistical analysis and numerical modelling of coastal environmental problems and ability to endure harsh field conditions proves him a good oceanographer and team leader.

Dr. Uma Sankar Panda is presently working as a Scientist-D in Integrated Coastal and Marine Area Management-Project Directorate, Chennai.

Dr. Uma Sankar Panda is awarded Certificate of Merit for his outstanding contributions in the prediction of pollutants in the coastal waters of Chennai programme.

Dr. Mithila Verma

Dr. Mithila Verma is working as Scientist in Ministry of Earth Sciences, New Delhi. She obtained her Ph. D degree in Geology from the University of Jammu in 2005. She was awarded University Gold Medal and Dr. N. Dasarathi Memorial Gold Medal in 2002.

Dr. Verma has been actively involved in Geoscience related studies since 2006. Some of her significant contributions include, 1) Initiation of school earthquake education programme at national level; 2) Strengthening of permanent geodetic network in the country; 3) Monitoring and study of slow earthquakes in Northwest Himalaya; 4) Evolving specific research projects of national importance towards understanding of geodynamics and crustal deformation; 5) Analysis and critical review of the crustal deformation studies as well as earthquake precursor studies carried out in the country.

Dr. Verma has also played an important role in developing a major programme on active fault mapping in India which aimed at preparing active fault maps of the country in compatible GIS format and library of active fault data. The end products will be used in detailed seismic hazard assessment in the country. She has contributed in preparation of base document on active fault mapping which provide standard guidelines and methodologies for comprehensive active fault studies. At present, she is engaged in evolving specific projects through various groups working in this area of research.

Besides, Dr. Verma has undertaken research on various important themes like; 1) Investigation and analysis of Mw 5.7 Kishtwar earthquake of May 1, 2013 in Jammu province with implications to seismotectonics and seismic hazard evaluation; 2) Detailed analysis and critical review of active fault studies in India; 3) Analysis and review of seismic hazard assessment in the country; 4) Analysed the role of soft sediments in damage pattern during earthquakes with implication to seismic risk evaluation. She has also undertaken some specific research problems like; largest earthquake in Himalaya and analysis on seismic gaps in Himalaya. In last three years, she has published many Research and Review papers in national and international peer reviewed journals. Dr. Verma has also presented many papers in national and International conferences/ workshops.

Dr. Mithila Verma is awarded Certificate of Merit for her outstanding contributions in the field of active fault mapping in India.