

COASTAL CURRENTS

E-NEWSLETTER (QUARTERLY)



COLLEGE OF FISHERIES SCIENCE

**ST. DEVASAHAYAM INSTITUTE OF
FISHERIES SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY**

Midalam - 629 193. Kanniyakumari Dist.

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Editorial Team

Prof. S. Felix, M.F.Sc, Ph.D
Dean

Dr. M. Divya, M.F.Sc, Ph.D
Asst. Professor

S. Shamini, M.F.Sc.,
Asst. Professor

Students

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Triviliya Richwin .R
Ugeeniya .R
Vipin Salaman .Y
Jobil Pio .A

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Bursar

From the desk of Dean...

Dear All,

It is with immense pride and joy that I present the **sixth** issue of our e-newsletter, Coastal Current. This publication continues to serve as a dynamic platform to showcase the achievements, activities, and innovations of our vibrant institute, the College of Fisheries Science, St. Devasahayam Institute of Fisheries Science and Technology, Amanattanthari (DIFST).

As we navigate an era of rapid advancements in fisheries science and technology, our institution remains unwavering in its dedication to academic excellence, research innovation, and community engagement. This past quarter has been particularly momentous, marked by significant milestones such as increasing our **admission capacity to 55 students per year**, expanding our infrastructure, and implementing impactful outreach programs.

We were delighted to welcome the enthusiastic 2024–25 batch of 50 students (37 girls and 13 boys), setting the stage for another promising academic year.

This quarter, DIFST also celebrated the release of our inaugural **e-magazine, Fish Tech Digest** Further, in collaboration with MANAGE, we proudly launched an ISBN-certified 2 two e-books, a compilation of insights from our online collaborative programs.

Our faculty have been actively contributing to the socio-economic upliftment of fisherfolk in Kanniyakumari District, submitting eight project proposals to the National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB), MANAGE and FSI for offline training programs. These initiatives exemplify our commitment to bridging the gap between academic pursuits and real-world applications.

On the infrastructure front, we have made substantial progress in finalizing the designs/elevations for our new college and hostel buildings, which will soon be submitted for approval by the relevant government agencies.

Additionally, I had the honor of representing DIFST at the International World Aquaculture Society Meet at Tunis in November 2024, where I presented a research paper and chaired a session on “Aquaculture Systems”. DIFST is also planning to introduce a new program along with our flag-ship program of B.F.Sc., which will be announced soon by the Diocese.

I warmly invite you to delve into the pages of Coastal Current and join us in celebrating the strides we are making at DIFST.

Kind regards,

Sugantham Felix

Dean, DIFST

(Former Vice Chancellor, TNJFU: 2017–2020)

Defining Moments on Campus

Inauguration of Scholarly Student's Society (2025-26)



The inauguration of the Scholarly Student's Society at DIFST took place on Friday, 29th November 2024. The event was presided over by Prof. S. Felix, Dean of DIFST, with Thiru. Rajasekar, The Tahsildar of Killiyur, as the Chief Guest. The students have diligently assumed their responsibilities and are actively carrying out their duties within the society.

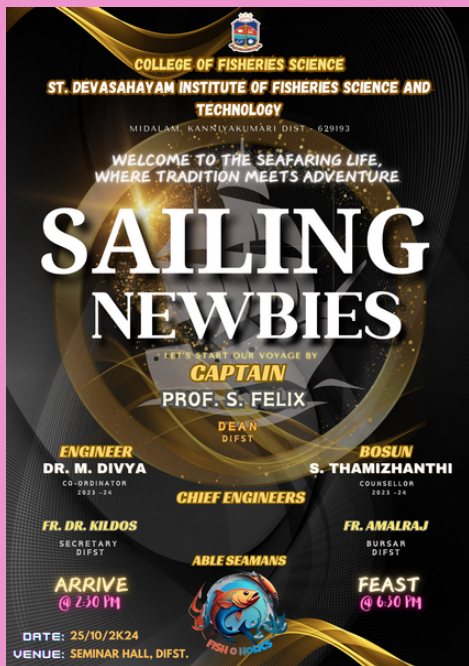


Key positions within the society include General Secretary, Literary Secretary, Eco-Club Secretary, Blood Donation Secretary, Editorial Secretary, Music-Club Secretary, and Hostel Secretary. This event marked the official annual announcement of the Scholarly Student's Society, providing students with an opportunity to engage in various roles and contribute meaningfully to the academic and social life of DIFST.

Sophomore Welcome the Junior Batch: "Sailing Newbies"

On October 25, 2024, the 2nd year students warmly welcomed the junior batch with a program titled "Sailing Newbies." The celebration included lively performances of dance and singing, creating a joyful atmosphere for all attendees. The event concluded with a cake-cutting ceremony, symbolizing the start of an exciting new journey for the juniors. This gathering strengthened bonds within the DIFST community and set a positive tone for the academic year ahead.





Christmas Celebration by the Scholarly Students Society (SSS)

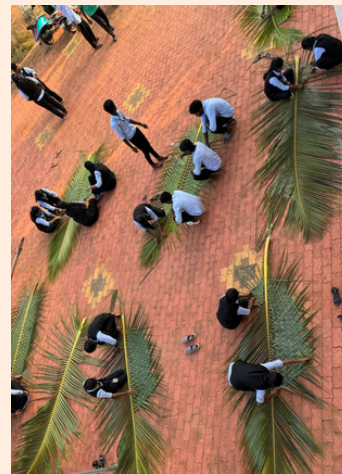
On December 23, 2024, the Scholarly students Society (SSS) hosted a lively Christmas celebration. The event was presided over by Prof. S. Felix and Felicited by Fr. Dr. A. Kildos, with Dr. Fr. Jhon Bosco serving as the distinguished chief guest. Students engaged in various cultural performances, such as Rangoli, Mehendi, Cooking Without Fire, Art from Waste, Hair Dressing, and Spell Bee competitions, competing for exciting prizes and fostering a festive spirit within the community.



Pongal Celebration

The Pongal celebration at DIFST took place on January 11, 2025. Organized by the Scholarly Students Society, the event featured a presidential address delivered by Prof. S. Felix. The special guest address was given by Fr. Amal Raj, Bursar of DIFST.

The celebration included various traditional competitions for both students and faculty members, adding a festive and competitive spirit to the occasion.



**Exploring Kanniyakumari
Meteorological Station**



On October 20, 2024, our students (I B.F.Sc) visited the Kanniyakumari Meteorological Station, a critical facility dedicated to monitoring weather patterns and climate conditions. During the visit, various devices used for collecting meteorological data, including rain gauges and cup anemometers, were observed. The station's personnel explained the processes of data gathering, analysis, and distribution. The essential role of meteorological services in forecasting weather patterns, issuing warnings, and supporting sectors such as fisheries and agriculture was highlighted. This firsthand experience enhanced the understanding of meteorology and its vital applications in everyday life.

Insights from Jeppiar Fishing Harbour



On October 24, 2024, our students (I B.F.Sc) visited the Jeppiar Fishing Harbour, Muttom, where the operations involved in fish collection, sampling, and preservation were explored. This experience highlighted the significance of accurate sampling and preservation methods in maintaining fish quality and safety. Harbour staff demonstrated various preservation techniques, such as icing, providing practical knowledge in collecting and conserving fish samples. The visit underscored the importance of effective post-harvest management procedures and their critical implications for the fishing industry.

Water Quality Assessment at Muttom Coast by Freshman Batch



On October 29, 2024, our students visited Muttom coast, where they conducted a water transparency test using a Secchi disc. Also check the temperature, pH and other water quality parameters.

THE OCEAN STIRS THE HEART, INSPIRES THE IMAGINATION, AND BRINGS ETERNAL JOY TO THE SOUL.

'Art- a skill & cure' workshop for I BFSC batch



Drawing Class with Fr. Shagaya Belix

On November 16, 2024, our students had the opportunity to participate in an inspiring drawing class taught by Fr. Shagaya Belix. This class was designed to refine artistic skills and unlock creativity, providing I year students with insights into techniques such as shading, perspective, and figure drawing. As skills improved, the sessions fostered a growing sense of accomplishment, combining technical instruction with a space for personal artistic expression.

Field Trip to Nanjil Traders Ice Plant



On November 7, 2024, our esteemed instructors, Miss Thamizhenthithi and Mrs. Amala Shajeeva, led a field trip to Nanjil Traders Ice Plant in Enayam. The owner, Mr. Antony Keny, provided an in-depth explanation of the ice manufacturing process, from the compressor system to the production and transportation of ice. Students gained insights not only into the mechanics of ice production but also valuable business knowledge, enhancing their understanding of industry operations.

Shore Seine Operation at Melmidalam Coast

DIFST students embarked on a field trip to Midalam fish landing on November 9, 2024. Utilizing cast nets, students engaged with local fishermen and gained hands-on experience in fish quantification. The interaction with the fishermen added a significant layer to the educational experience, highlighting the skills and practices of the fishing community.



Visit to Thengaipattanam Deepsea Fishing Harbour

On November 11, 2024, students visited Thengaipattanam Harbour, a bustling fishing destination filled with activity. They observed fishermen unloading their catch and auctioning fresh seafood. This vibrant environment was complemented by discussions with fishermen, who shared their daily challenges and successes, providing invaluable insights into the fishing industry and its relevance to the local community.



Visit to TNJFU Research & Extension Centre, Parakai

On November 14, 2024, 1 year students visited the Centre for Environmental Studies and Awareness (CESA) in Parakai. This visit provided students with valuable practical exposure, covering Loach breeding, ornamental fish breeding, live feed culture, aquatic weed culture, Pearl Spot culture, and identification of Indian major carps. Students gained hands-on experience in identifying carps, cultivating aquatic weeds, and deepened their understanding of Loach breeding practices.



Brown Mussel Fishing Witnessed at Melmidalam Coast



On December 21, 2024, students focused on studying the fishing of brown mussels at Midalam coast, a renowned site for this activity in Kanyakumari. Fishermen demonstrated the traditional methods used to collect mussels, including the use of catamarans, providing students with an opportunity to observe these techniques firsthand.

Insights from Jeppiar Fishing Harbour and Ice Plant, Muttom

On November 28, 2024, our students visited the Jeppiar Fishing Harbour, where they explored fish collection, sampling, and preservation practices. The harbour workers demonstrated essential preservation techniques, such as icing, which is vital for maintaining fish quality and safety.

The group also toured the Jeppiar Ice Plant, learning about the production of high-quality flake ice crucial for preserving seafood post-harvest. This visit highlighted the importance of effective fishing and post-harvest management procedures in the fishing industry and provided students with valuable practical knowledge about the sustainable handling of seafood.



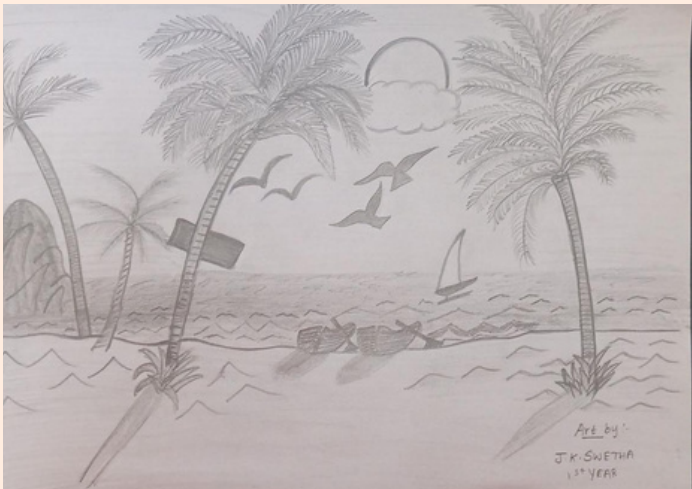
**Visit to Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK)
Kanyakumari**

On December 19, 2024, students (II B.F.Sc) visited the Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) in Kanyakumari, an important center for agricultural education supported by ICAR and Tamil Nadu Agricultural University.

The visit included engaging discussions on On-Farm Testing (OFT) and Frontline Demonstrations (FLD), showcasing sustainable agricultural practices. Students learned from experts about the vital role of KVK in bridging research and practical application, empowering the local farming community.



student skill spotlight



“Chase the sunset, embrace the waves”

Swetha J. K - I st year B.F.Sc



“Captured dreams, waiting to set sail.”

Mary jeni. A - I st year B.F.Sc

Breaking Boundaries: Articles Published

Title	Magazine
Aquaculture Informatics	Aquaculture Spectrum
Fisheries Co-management in India: A Collaborative Approach for Sustainable Fisheries	Aqua Star
Challenges and Prospects of India's Shrimp Industry : A Balanced Approach to Aquaculture and Wild Capture	Fish Tech Digest

Breaking Boundaries: Articles Inpipeline

Title
Transforming Waste into Value : Eco Information with Fish Meal for Economic Advancement
AI Driven Aquaculture
Transforming Fisheries and Aquaculture: Digital Technologies for Climate Resilience
A Cross Disciplinary Approach to Study the Impacts of Microplastic on Aquatic Organism.

Fresh Grant Proposals Presented to Government Agencies for Funding Support

Titles of proposal submitted	
Project Name	Project Coordinators
• Fish Product Value Chain: Preparation to Marketing	S. Thamizhanthi, V. Suvetha, Prof. S. Felix
• Technologies for scaling up Spirulina Farming	Dr. M. Divya, C. Rajeswari, Prof. S. Felix
• Nursery Rearing Technology for Sea bass (<i>Lates calcarifer</i>) Achieving High Survival in RAS.	R. Vidhu Rajan, Prof. S. Felix
• Live Feed Production Techniques and their Aquaculture Applications.	M. Porkodi, Prof. S. Felix
• Marine Conservation Through Responsible Fishing and Turtle Excluder Device (TED) Adoption	S. Shamini, N.Karthik, Prof. S. Felix
• Marine Navigation: A Practical Guide for Local and Offshore Fisherman	M.S. Swathy Devi, Prof S Feix.
• Bridging Local and Deep-sea Fishing Practices for Sustainable Tuna Fisheries in Kanniyakumari	N.Karthik, S. Shamini, Prof. S. Felix
• Enhancing Aquaculture Productivity Through Quality Testing of Soil and Water	Dr. M. Divya, C. Rajeswari, Prof. S. Felix

For your Feedback

Website: www.difstedu.com

Mail ID: dean@difstedu.com