

Final Prog. Schedule

**National Convention on
Who owns India's coastlines? Building Science Movements for Coastal Areas
Organized by All India Peoples Science Network (AIPSN)
in partnership with Tamil Nadu Science Forum (TNSF)
February 8th- 9th, 2020, Don Bosco Youth Media Centre, Ennore, Chennai.**

Theme: This national convention is part of a series of national conventions being organized to evolve a common understanding within the All India People's Science Network (AIPSN) on important challenges facing the nation, and critically examining and formulating the role of the science movement at this juncture. One broad area of intervention of the science movement has been on issues related to environment and natural resources management, particularly questions of technological choice and development contradictions. Keeping equity and sustainability central to the conversation, the objective is to understand contemporary transformations and engage with different groups working in this field. The domain of this convention is on issues related to development in India's extensive coastal areas. And the focus is on forms of negotiating with the state and markets in the interests of people's rights over the coastal ecosystem.

Day 1 of the conference will capture the macro situation at present- challenges and threats on the coastal environment and state policy. Day 2 will be centred on specific areas, people and their livelihoods leading to a discussion on understanding resistance and building movements towards rethinking the current development paradigms.

The inaugural session would introduce the objectives of the workshop and the inaugural address would provide an overview of climate change as the over-arching issue that accelerates and impacts on all other existing vulnerabilities as well as create new tensions.

Day:1-- 8th Feb.

Registration:

Inaugural Session: 10.00 to 11.30

1. **Welcome: Mr. M. S. Stephenathan, State Secretary, TNSF**
2. **Objectives of the Workshop: Dr. V. Sukumaran, TNSF State , Vice President**
3. **Chairpersons remarks: Mr. M.G.Devasahayam, IAS, Rtd.**
4. **Inaugural Address: Dr. D. Raghunandan, DSF**
5. **Vote of Thanks: Ms. Kanchana, Dist. Secretary, TNSF, North Chennai**

Session I 11.30 am -1.00 pm

Introducing the Coast: Recent reformulations of the traditional paradigm of Development vs Conservation

As the introductory session, this sets the background for the convention. Begins with placing important emerging issues on the coastal sector. This is followed by two important changes- commercialization and the forms and nature of privatization of the commons and would enable discussion on present forms of capitalism and the neo-liberalization of nature. This also links environmental questions with local interests. What insight do we get from environmental sciences and how does a people's movement manifest the environmental question?

Chair: **Mr. P.Rajamanickam, General Secretary, AIPSN**

Essential Topics to be covered:

- Emerging coastal Issues: Delta Vulnerability, Subsidence: - Dr. S. Janakarajan
- Enclosing the coastal commons: Forms of state and private capture over the coastlines: Dr. S. Krithi. TISS, Hyderabad
- Discourse on the environmental impact- Do mangroves/coral reefs matter? (Why do mangroves matter to the people?) – Dr. R.Ramasubramanian , MSSRF

Session II

2.00 -3.30

Combating Climate Change: Concepts, Issues and Emerging Challenges

This session takes up the issue of climate change which is emerging as one of the most important questions around the coast. It includes climate negotiations, including the failure of COP meetings and lack of effective state policy. The session would also present the discussion on disasters or other vulnerabilities and forms of adaptation and mitigation and the link between science movement and climate change

Chair: Dr. D. Raghunandan, DSF-CTD

- Climate Change related vulnerabilities and measures to combat :Mr.G .Mohapatra and Chinmaya Pati BGVS, Odisha
- **Electricity in Coastal areas: Mr. Ashok Rao**

Session III

4.00-5.30

Interrogating Coastal Laws and Governance

This session takes up relevant laws both regarding fisheries and fisherfolk and other laws impacting coastal development. It includes both laws and legal struggles on issues related to waste disposal and sewage/littering in the ocean. It includes the struggles around the introduction of aquaculture along the coasts. Municipality laws in this regard would also be important to present.

Chair: Dr.S.Janakarajan

- CRZ and CMZ and Fisheries Act-Mr. A.Mariadasan
- Marine and aquaculture issues- a report from the Andhra Coast-Mr. Shaik Riyazuddin JVV AP
- Shrimp Industry- Mr. Ramesh Babu, Cuddalore
- Interventions in the law: Reflections on successful/unsuccessful legal struggles -Mr.MC Rajan

Session IV

6.30-8.00

Community Interactions: Focus on struggles and community testimonies from the Ennore area: Chair: Justice Hari Paranthaman

Day 2 – 9th Feb

6AM ToxicTour along the coast

Session V

9.30-11.00

Livelihoods around the coast- The fishing community

This session looks at fishing communities and their livelihood challenges. It would be useful if there is discussion on forms of resistance building up. Needs to include the question of gender and the issues around introduction of technology

Chair Dr. T. Sundararaman

- Fisherfolk livelihood and Sagarmala – Mr. K.Saravanan
- Small fisheries/fisherfolk livelihood- Mr. Rahul M
- Gender, technology, markets and changing production relations- Ms.Gayatri Nair (IIIT/JNU)

Session VI

11.30-1.30

Livelihoods around the coast- Agriculture, Industry and Urbanization

This session can be reworked a bit according to resource person availability. Important aspects are the inclusion of agriculture concerns- aquaculture, salt farming etc. Industry and its impacts- on the Adani port- if there are people who can speak from other states it would be interesting esp as Adani ports is coming up elsewhere as well. And finally, the nature of real estate demands vs local community housing and livelihood needs.

Chair: Mr.PK Rajan

- Agriculture on the coasts: Mr.TP Raghunath
- Coastal energy generation projects and its consequence- Mannai.V.Sethuraman
- Urban waste and the coast: Ms. Satyarupa Sekar CAG

Session VII

2.30-5.00 – Panel Discussion: The Way Forward: Discussing mobilization and resistance and building solidarities

This is in some ways the most important session and should be given attention. The idea is to encourage discussion, allow interventions from different movements and think on how the science movement can carry the programme forward and what the programme should be in the current juncture.

Chair: D.Thomas Franco

(This can have 6-7 people with 10-15 mins per person and allowing and encouraging discussion and interventions from the areas if any)

Resource based Development of Coastal Areas- Mr.M. G. Devasahayam, IAS Rtd.

Experience from the coastal movements and the way forward- Nithyanand Jayaraman

Aipsn Way Forward: P. Rajamanickam, Gen.Sec. AIPSN

Delegate from each state propose their state plan

- Interventions at the local level- What is to be done? Dr. Ram Manohar, TNSF through a paper

Session: Valediction

Concluding Remarks: Mr.S. Subramani, State Gen.Secretary, TNSF