

## Patrons

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**Prof. K. N. Madhusoodhanan**, Vice Chancellor,  
CUSAT

**Prof. Edathil Vijayan**, President, SBTI

**Prof. Sarita G Bhat**, Head, Dept. of Biotechnology,  
CUSAT

**Prof. K. P Joy**, Vice President, SBTI

## Programme coordinators

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**Dr. Ajith Vengellur.**, Assistant Professor, Dept. of  
Biotechnology, CUSAT & Treasurer, SBTI

**Dr. Anju T R.**, Secretary, SBTI & Assistant Professor,  
Dept. of Biotechnology, Newman college, Thodupuzha

## Organising Committee Members

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**Dr. Baby Chakrapani**, Assistant Professor, Dept. of  
Biotechnology, CUSAT

**Dr. Naijil George**, Assistant Professor, Dept. of  
Biotechnology, St. Joseph's College, Irinjalakuda

**Dr. Mohanan Valiyaveetil**, DBT RLF Faculty,  
Dept. of Biotechnology, CUSAT

**Prof. M. Chandrasekaran**, Dept. of Biotechnology,  
CUSAT

**Dr. Deepa Narayanan**, Assistant Professor, Dept. of  
Biotechnology, CUSAT

## Registration details

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No Registration Fees

The participants are requested to register their names  
on or before 25 February, 2020 by email to  
vengellur@gmail.com ; anjutr@gmail.com, mob  
:07558996850; 09446002071

Maximum number of participants will be limited to  
100; hence selection will be entirely based on first  
come first served basis.

# NATIONAL SCIENCE DAY CELEBRATION

## 2020



## Seminar on Interdisciplinary Approaches for Sustainable Development And Open Lab Programme

Jointly Organised by  
Department of Biotechnology,  
Cochin University of  
Science and Technology,  
Kochi-22  
&  
Society for Biotechnologists (India)

Venue: Seminar Hall,  
Dept. of Biotechnology, CUSAT

Date: 28 February, 2020



Cochin University of Science and Technology is a well known science and technology university in Kochi, Kerala, India. The academic diversity evidenced in the curricula ranging from traditional courses to the most advanced programmes in technology and research is the unique strength of CUSAT which makes the University a highly sought after institution worldwide for academic collaborations and exchange programmes. The Department of Biotechnology, CUSAT offers PG and PhD programmes in Biotechnology and is also undertaking a number of projects and schemes sponsored by various Govt. funding agencies. The mandate of the Department is to inculcate research insight in students which is tuned up by funded research projects, career oriented lectures and organizing scientific seminars and workshops. The Society for Biotechnologists (India) or SBTI was established in 1995 with its headquarters at Cochin University of Science and Technology, Kochi. The Society promotes the exchange of scientific information through workshops, conferences and publications in emerging areas of biotechnology and science. The Society has 18 honorary members and more than 2000 life and ordinary members from various fields of science and technology.

The Open Lab programme jointly organized by Department of Biotechnology, CUSAT and SBTI aims to make research in science and technology more accessible to the graduates and school students. Open Lab is a great opportunity to observe and understand the working of various sophisticated instruments and get familiarised with different laboratory techniques. Supervised by young students and researchers, visitors can explore the research laboratories in Department of Biotechnology in the areas of Microbial Technology, Medical Biotechnology, Genetic Engineering, Molecular Neurobiology, Virology, Cell Biology and Plant Biotechnology.

### Keynote Lectures:

Lecture 1: Eco- design of materials: Biomolecules as versatile platform for the synthesis of functional materials.

Dr. Bejoy Thomas

Assistant Professor, Department of Chemistry, Newman College, Thoupuzha.

Bejoy Thomas studied chemistry at the University of Bangalore (India) and received his PhD in physical chemistry from Cochin University of Science and Technology (India). After working for some time in NMR spectroscopy at the Indian Institute of Science (India), he moved to Germany as a DFG (German Chemical Society) postdoctoral fellow at the Institute of Chemical Technology, University of Stuttgart. Dr. Bejoy then moved to France as a CNRS postdoctoral associate at the Laboratoire de Chimie de la Matière de Condensée de Paris, UPMC-P6 before coming back to India to join Newman College, Thodupuzha, Kerala in 2011. The focus of his work is self-assembly of biosurfactant molecules including long chain fatty acids and their esters, small proteins, polysaccharides, etc. synthesis of hierarchical zeolites, ordered mesoporous materials, surface science, and catalysis, and in situ NMR spectroscopy of working catalysts. Recently, the work is focussed on the extraction, characteristics, and application of nanocellulosic materials, especially towards catalysis. Dr. Bejoy has an h-index of 19 and published nearly 40 research articles in high impact journals.

Lecture 2: Marine biotechnology for blue economy and sustainable development.

Dr. Valsamma Joseph

Director, National Centre for Aquatic Animal Health (NCAAH), Cochin University of Science and Technology (CUSAT), Lakeside campus, Fine Arts Avenue, Cochin-16, Kerala 682 016

Dr. Valsamma Joseph is Associate Professor in Marine Biotechnology, and Director of National Centre for Aquatic Animal Health, Cochin University of Science and Technology. She is the Course Coordinator of M.Tech. Marine Biotechnology programme sponsored by Department of Biotechnology, Government of India under National network for human resource development in Biotechnology offered by Cochin University of Science and Technology. Currently Dr. Valsamma is the Principal Investigator of DBT funded major project for Rs. 71 lakh and Co-investigator of major projects like UGC funded project 'Indo-US initiatives on innovative reforms in marine biotechnology education and research and development of sustainable aquaculture production systems for inclusive economic growth and sustainable' and DBT funded 'Marine synthetic biology: building national capacity and human resource'.