

**Dr. N. V. Vinithkumar**

Dr. N. V. Vinithkumar, Scientist-E, completed his M.Sc. (Marine Biology and Oceanography), M.Phil and Ph.D (Marine Biology) from Annamalai University, Tamil Nadu. He finished UGC-CSIR NET in Earth and Atmospheric Sciences and ASRB NET in Fisheries Sciences as well as received certificate and diploma in computer software programming and engineering. He joined in the National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), Chennai in January 2000 in the Ocean Science and Technology Islands (OSTI) / Marine Biotechnology programme. In 2005 he was transferred to Andaman and Nicobar Centre for Ocean Science and Technology (ANCOST), NIOT, Port Blair. Since 2008, he is working as the Officer-In-Charge for ANCOST.

His important contribution includes development of Marine Bioinformatics Centre at NIOT, technology demonstration of open sea cage fish culture programme of Asian Seabass in North Bay, Port Blair as a pioneer effort, development of Island Resource Information System (IRIS) programme with simulation of digital elevation model (DEM) of islands, creation of spatial maps and geodatabase of water quality parameters of ecologically sensitive bays of A&N Islands, Development of Potential Drug from Ocean programme and extraction of more than 400 marine organisms for various bioactivity studies. He is also involved in Marine seawater quality monitoring along Indian coast programme for A&N Islands from the year 2000 onwards. He also involved in the development of Multiplex PCR kit for the quick detection Enterococcus faecalis, for which an Indian Patent was filed. More than 60 EIA studies were conducted in A&N Islands and coordinated with Department of Fisheries of A&N Administration for the deployment of 10 FADs. He is coordinating with Central Public Work Department (CPWD) for infrastructure development including Lab and Administrative building, staff quarters at ANCOST campus. He also co-authored a book on Flora of Tropical Islands which is under press review. He has authored more than 40 research articles, 6 book chapters in peer reviewed international and national journals, and presented 35 research papers in national and international Symposia/ Seminar/ Conference/ Workshop in India, also submitted 120 DNA/RNA gene sequences of microorganisms such as actinomycetes, bacteria and algae to NCBI gene database.

Dr. N. V. Vinithkumar is awarded certificate of Merit for his outstanding contributions in the field of Ocean Technology.