

# **Brief CV's of Speakers**

# Prof. John Kurien (Keynote Speaker)

**John Kurien**, is a reflective practitioner. He was involved with organisational initiatives and research studies focusing on the labouring classes in the fisheries sector in India and other countries for five decades.

After a PGDBM from XLRI, Jamshedpur in 1973, he opted to live and work in a fishing village helping small-scale, artisanal fishers in Kerala State to form their own fish marketing cooperatives to ensure that they get the best shore prices to enhance income and welfare. The finance and marketing system which was set up has been replicated by the government.

In 1984 he facilitated the first **International Conference of Fishworkers and their Supporters** organised in Rome, functioning as its Secretary-General.

Having a Ph.D. in Social Sciences from TISS, Mumbai, he was an activist-researcher, in the Centre for Development Studies (CDS), Trivandrum. His teaching and publications focused on coastal zone ecology and livelihoods. While at CDS, he took the lead to set up the *International Collective in Support of Fishworkers* (www.icsf.net). He was Vice-Chair of the UN/FAO Advisory Committee on Fisheries Research (ACFR) for a decade from 1997.

He worked for the UN/FAO for several years to facilitate fisheries co-management initiatives in post-conflict Cambodia and in post-tsunami Aceh, Indonesia.

He retired as Professor from CDS, Trivandrum and was also Visiting Professor in Azim Premji University, Bengaluru for a decade.

He is currently Guest Editor for the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture (IYAFA) Special Issue of the international journal *Reviews in Fish Biology and Fisheries*. (https://www.springer.com/journal/11160)

#### Ambassador Debraj Pradhan, IFS (Retd)

Born at Dhenkanal, Odisha.

Education: High School - BB High School, Dhenkanal (1974); College - BJB College, Bhubaneswar (BA Political Science Honours - 1978) University- JNU, New Delhi (MA Political Science - 1980)

Service career: Joined Indian Police Service (IPS) in 1980; Joined Indian Foreign Service (IFS) in 1981;

Postings held: Served in various capacities in Indian Missions in Kenya, Bangladesh, Austria, Argentina, Nigeria, the Netherlands, and Iran as well as in the Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi from 1982-2011.

As Ambassador of India: Served as Ambassador of India to Angola, Chile and Norway from 2011-2018. Retired from IFS in June 2018.

Present position: Joined KIIT University as Director General International Relations in February 2019. Job includes internationalisation of higher education, student mobility, exchange of faculty and students, distinguished lectures, research and innovation with foreign universities etc.

Hobbies: Tourism, travel and photography.

## Dr. Priyadarshi Dash

**Dr. Priyadarshi Dash** is Associate Professor at Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), New Delhi, India. He is a Co-Chair of the Task Force-5 for T20 India and has contributed policy briefs to T20 during past presidencies. He has 15 years of experience in policy research on trade, investment, infrastructure and fintech issues in the context of G20, IORA, BIMSTEC and Indo-Pacific. Dr. Dash has published two books titled '*Asia-Africa Growth Corridor: Development and Cooperation in Indo-Pacific*' and '*Universal Banking in India: Evolution, Trends and Performance*' and several papers in peer-reviewed journals and edited volumes. He is member of the Editorial Advisory Board of Cambridge Scholars Publishing, London and *Advances in Economics and Business*; Member of Editorial Review Board of *Virtual Economics*; Managing Editor of *G20 Digest, and Co-Editor of Journal of Asian Economic Integration*.

## Dr. Arun Padiyar (Panel Speaker)

#### Dr. Arun Padiyar, WorldFish Lead – India and One CGIAR Country Convener, India

Dr. Arun leads the India program of WorldFish, an International research organisation under Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR). He is also the Country Convener of One CGIAR program in India. He has over 23 years of experience in fisheries sector development programs in India and abroad. Earlier he worked as Program Manager and Aquaculture Expert under WorldFish for the technical collaboration with Department of Fisheries, Government of Odisha during 2016-2022 for supporting it in implementation of Odisha Fisheries Policy-2015. He has experience in supporting the Governments in preparation of fisheries policies, fisheries master plans and schemes & programs, scheme implementation guidelines, various extension documents in India and other countries. He has managed and provided technical expert services to fisheries development programs of various inter-governmental and international organisations in various countries including India, China, Indonesia, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Vietnam, Thailand, Palestine & Solomon Islands. He has led the largest post-disaster and postconflict reconstruction and rehabilitation program in aquaculture sub-sector in Indonesia under the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations and World Bank group during 2005-2010 as an international fisheries and aquaculture expert. He has hands-on expertise in planning, construction and operation of fish hatchery, nursery, farms in public and private sectorsDr. Arun Padiyar, WorldFish Lead - India and One CGIAR Country Convener, India

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He is a native of Mangalore, Karnataka and has earned his Bachelor and Master of Fisheries Science degrees from College of Fisheries, University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore and **PhD in Fish health management from Deakin University, Australia.** 

### Mr. J. Vincent Jain (Panel Speaker)

**J.Vincent Jain,** Deputy Chief Executive, South Indian Federation of Fishermen Societies (SIFFS) working for the economic wellbeing of fisherman community for more than 30 years. He has been associated the Association of Deep Sea Going Artisanal Fishermen (ADSGAF), IFAD-PTSLP Tamil Nadu, Marine Product Export Development Authority, Government of India , FAO of United Nations team for Tsunami Recovery Support (UNTRS), Chennai, Bay of Bengal Program, Inter Governmental Organization, Humane Society International, Central Institute of Fisheries Technology and Centre for Management Development.

He is an active member of IInstitute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE)

Society on Social Implications of Technology Artisanal Deep-Sea Fishers.

His major area of Interest is Post Harvest (Fisheries), Sea Safety, Alternative Energy, Waste Recycling and Disaster Management. He encouraged Engineering students to carry out projects to serve the underserved especially fisherfolks.

He has received IEEE SIGHT (Special Interest Group on Humanitarian Technology (SIGHT) fellow award for presenting papers at California, USA and Athens, Greece.

He is also the receiver of Geographic Activities-MGA Achievements 2015 Award. He holds MA degree in (Economics) and MSc degree in (Ecology and Environment).