

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD FOR OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE VERAVAL CHAPTER OF MARINE BIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

A meeting was held for the Official Opening of the **Veraval Chapter of Marine Biological Association of India (MBAI)** in the presence of Dr. C.N. Ravishankar, Director, ICAR-CIFT as the Chief Guest at 17.00 hrs on Friday, **06th April, 2018**. The venue of meeting was kept at the Seminar Hall of College of Fisheries Science, Veraval. The meeting was attended by 61 people, including Scientists from ICAR-CMFRI and CIFT; Professors and Students from the College of Fisheries Science, Veraval and Professors from Kamdhenu University, Gandhinagar. The agendas of the meeting were following:

1. **Official Opening of Veraval Chapter of MBAI:** The consent signatures of over 12 members were obtained for opening of local chapter at Veraval. This will be sent to the MBAI Executive Council at Kochi for approval.
2. **Election of proposed office bearers for the new chapter of MBAI:** The following MBAI members were elected as office bearers of the new MBAI chapter.
 - 1) **Chairman: Dr. A. Y. Desai** (Principal & Dean, College of Fisheries Science, Veraval). Nominated by Dr. Divu D. (Scientist & SIC, CMFRI) and seconded by Dr. Ashish Kumar Jha (Scientist & SIC, CIFT).
 - 2) **Vice-Chairman: Dr. Divu D.** (Scientist & SIC, CMFRI). Nominated by Dr. A. Y. Desai (Principal & Dean, College of Fisheries Science, Veraval) and seconded by Sh. Tarachand Kumawat (Scientist, CMFRI).
 - 3) **Vice-Chairman: Dr. Ashish Kumar Jha** (Scientist & SIC, CIFT). Nominated by Dr. Divu D. (Scientist & SIC, CMFRI) and seconded by Dr. Prajith K.K. (Scientist, CIFT).
 - 4) **Secretary: Sh. Tarachand Kumawat** (Scientist, CMFRI). Nominated by Dr. A. Y. Desai (Principal & Dean, College of Fisheries Science, Veraval) and seconded by Dr. Divu D. (Scientist & SIC, CMFRI).
 - 5) **Treasurer: Dr. Prajith K.K.** (Scientist, CIFT). Nominated by Dr. Divu D. (Scientist & SIC, CMFRI) and seconded by Sh. Tarachand Kumawat (Scientist, CMFRI)
3. **Launch of membership drive for MBAI:** A membership drive was launched by new office bearers to increase the members in the association.
4. **Schedule of proposed MBAI events and members' meet:** The following events (in each category at least one) was proposed at Veraval for the year 2018-19 to assist in promoting objectives of the association.
 - 1) **Scientific talk and Coastal walk**
 - 2) **Marine life quiz competition**
 - 3) **Conference and members' meet**

Following the election of the office bearers, the newly elected Chairman and Vice-chairmen addressed the gathering and requested the members to actively participate in the planning and execution of activities for MBAI. They also encouraged increased student participation. The Chief Guest Dr. C.N. Ravishankar, Director, ICAR-CIFT wished the new chapter all success in its future activities. The meeting concluded at 18.00 hrs with a vote of thanks and group photograph.