

## Education

### Bachelor of Science | Zoology

2001-2004

MS University, Tirunelveli, India

### Master of Science | Microbiology

2004-2006

MK University, Madurai, India.

### Doctor of Philosophy | Marine Biology

2006 -2012

MS University, Tirunelveli, India.

## Fellowships

### Pool Scientist Fellowship

CSIR, India – 2022

### Fulbright Post-Doctoral fellowship

Indo – US, USIEF- 2017

### Kothari Fellowship

University Grant Commission, India

2014 to 17.

## Experience

**Assistant Professor:** November 2023 to present, Sultan Qaboos University, Department of Marine Science and Fisheries, Oman.

**CSIR Scientist Pool:** January 2022 to October 2023, Indian Institute of Science, India. Project: Exploring the Adaptive Potential of Indian Reef Corals to Climate Change: A Genomic Guide for Effective Restoration and Conservation.

**Principal Investigator & RA:** June 2020 to December 2022.

Pondicherry University, India,

Project: Coral health assessment and AMRWATCH Indo – UK project.

**Research break but professionally active:** January 2019 to May 2020. MS University, India – Organized lab meetings for Ph.D. students.

**Fulbright Post-Doctoral Fellow:** Jan 2017 to Jan 2019.

Florida International University, USA

Project: Elucidate the role of microbiomes in coral adaptation – Miami urban corals.

**UGC D.S Kothari Post-Doctoral Fellow:** Jan 2014 to Dec 2016.

Pondicherry University, India

Project: Understand the physiological responses and role of microbial communities of corals against coral diseases”- Palk Bay Reefs.

**Research Associate:** January 2012 to 2013.

Indian Institute of Science, India

Project: Macro-scale patterns in species distribution of the intertidal soft shore macro-benthic communities along the mainland coast of India.

**Junior & Senior Research Fellow:** December 2006 to 2012,

Manonmaniam Sundaranar University. India.

Coral Disease ecology, Coral reproductive biology, Coral transplantation, Coral bleaching studies and Coral health monitoring.

**Awards**

Rufford Small Grand

PADI Foundation

IDEA Wild

DST Travel Grant

CSIR Travel Grant

NASA Distinguished

Professor Aronnox Award (NASA NEEMO)

SQU Seed Grant

**Skills:**

Microbial Ecology – QIIME and Linux

QGIS Basic Mapping Tools

Photoshop.

PCR & NGS.

**Field Experience:**

Scientific Diving

Coral Transplantation

Coral Health Assessment

Coral Disease Ecology

Scientific Writing.

In – Situ Experiments

**Reviewer:**

FEMS Microbial Ecology

Frontiers in Microbiology

Marine Pollution bulletin

Environ.Monit.Assess

Bulletin in Marine Science.

**Selected Publications:**

Thinesh T, Meenatchi R, Lipton AN, Anandham R, Jose PA, Tang SL, Seghal Kiran G, Selvin J. Metagenomic sequencing reveals altered bacterial abundance during coral-sponge interaction: Insights into the invasive process of coral-killing sponge *Terpios hoshinota*. *Microbiological Research*. 2020; 240:12655.

Ramu Meenatchi, Thangadurai Thinesh, Pownraj Brindangnanam, Saqib Hassan, George Seghal Kiran, Joseph Selvin. Revealing the impact of global mass bleaching on coral microbiome through 16S rRNA gene-based metagenomic analysis. *Microbiological Research*. 2019; 233:126408.

T. Thinesh, Meenatchi, Polpass Arul Jose, Seghal Kiran, Joseph Selvin. Differential bleaching and recovery pattern of southeast Indian coral reef to 2016 global mass bleaching event: Occurrence of stress-tolerant symbiont *Durussdinium* (Clade D) in corals of Palk Bay. *Marine Pollution Bulletin*. 2019; 145:287–294.

Thinesh Thangadurai, Meenatchi R, Pasiyappazham R, Jose PA, Selvan M, et al. Differential coral response to algae contact *Porites* tissue loss, praise for *Halimeda* interaction at South east coast of India. *Environmental Science and Pollution Research*. 2019; 26(17):17845-17852.

Thinesh T, Meenatchi R, Pasiyappazham R, Jose PA, Selvan M, et al. Short-term in situ shading effectively mitigates linear progression of coral-killing sponge *Terpios hoshinota*. *Plos One*. 2017; 12(10).

Thinesh T, Mathews G, Diraviya Raj K, Edward JKP. Outbreaks of *Acropora* white syndrome and *Terpios* sponge overgrowth combined with coral mortality in Palk Bay, southeast coast of India. *Diseases of Aquatic Organisms*. 2017; 126:63-70.

Thinesh T, Jose P, Hassan S, Selvan K, Selvin J. Intrusion of coral-killing sponge (*Terpios hoshinota*) on the reef of Palk Bay. *Current Science*. 2015; 109(6):1030.

Thinesh T, Mathews G, Diraviaraj K, Patterson J K. Variation in black and white band disease progression in corals in the Laccadive Sea, southeastern India. *Diseases in Aquatic Organisms*. 2014; 10(3):227-234.

Thinesh T, Mathews G, Diraviaraj K, Patterson J K. Coral diseases, successful contributors to coral mortality in Shingle Island, Gulf of Mannar, and Southeastern India. *Diseases in Aquatic Organisms*. 2013; 106:69–77.

Edward JKP, Mathews G, Raj KD, Thinesh T, Patterson J, Tamelander J, Wilhelmsson D. Coral reefs of Gulf of Mannar, India - Signs of Resilience. *Proceedings of the 12th International Coral Reef Symposium*, Cairns, Australia, 9-13 July 2012.

**In Review & Prep:**

Thinesh et al. History of recurrent short and long-term coral bleaching events in Indian reefs: a systematic review of contrasting bleaching patterns, lessons learned, and future directions.

Thinesh et al. Symbiont plasticity and bacterial flexibility favours corals to survive in the urban environment.

**References**

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**National Conference/Seminar/Workshop Participated/Invited lectures – Selected**

Invited Talk on “Adaptive mechanism of corals” at Ramasamy Naidu college| Trending research Avenues in Biological sciences 31st, January 2020. University Grant commission, Government of India, Sponsored programme.

Invited lecture on Coral Algal Symbiosis at “TMBT | National Conference on Marine Biotechnology | 14-15 February 2019. Department of Biotechnology India, Sponsored programme.

Invited lecture title “Coral adaptive mechanism to climate change” at International Seminar on “BIODIVERSITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE” on 5 th and 6 th December 2019. at “Women’s Christian college, Department of Zoology & Biotechnology. Nagercoil. India.

Invited lecture title “Role of Symbionts in coral adaptation” In International Conference on Bio-Commerce 2019 at aditanar college, Tiruchendur.

Presented paper title “Using the world’s deepest coral nursery to examine the influence of genet on survival” on Reef Futures 2018 Coral Restoration and Intervention Science Symposium held in Key Largo, Florida, USA. December 10-14. 2018.

Presented paper title “Coral disease distribution and prevalence in Gulf of Mannar and Palk Bay- South East Coast of India” held in Taiwan, June 23 to 27, 2014.

Presented the poster on Observations on the coral reproduction in Tuticorin coast of the Gulf of Mannar, Southeastern India. 11th International coral reef symposium, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, USA. July 9, 2008.

Proceedings of the International workshop on “Gulf of mannar biosphere reserve: An ecological model for biodiversity conservation livelihood and sustainability’ organized by national biodiversity authority Chennai-20- 21, 09.2007.

Training workshop for strengthening capacity of officers of State Fisheries Department, Forest (Wildlife) Department and other stakeholder departments to understand the marine biodiversity richness of Gulf of Mannar, its current status of conservation and remedial measures, jointly organized by Gulf of Mannar Biosphere Reserve Trust and SDMRI, Tuticorin, 15-17 November 2006.

**Media Coverage:**

Under the hood: cure for a deathly infection in sponge – India Biosciences. 27- September-2017

A call for Indian marine scientists to establish a culture of diving safety. India Biosciences. December- 2019.

Study explores recovery patterns of corals in Palk Bay after the 2016 bleaching event. Monga Bay - 25 December 2019.