



Post Covid Lecture Series National Online Lecture on

Knowledge Society

Challenges of Sustainability Science and Water Management in Kerala

by

Professor Srikumar Chattopadhyay

Formerly Director Grade Scientist and Head, Resources Analysis Division of the
Centre for Earth Science Studies (CESS), Thiruvananthapuram

17 April 2021 at 6.00 p.m (IST)

Speaker



Dr. Srikumar Chattopadhyay is an internationally reputed Geographer. He did M. Sc & Ph. D in Geography. Formerly a Director Grade Scientist and Head, Resources Analysis Division of the Centre for Earth Science Studies (CESS), Thiruvananthapuram, India. Currently, he is a National Fellow of Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) housed in the Gulati Institute of Finance and Taxation (GIFT), Thiruvananthapuram. He was awarded Dutch Government Fellowship, Fulbright Fellowship and HWK Institute of Advanced Studies (Germany) Fellowship and Recipient of State and National awards. Dr. Chattopadhyay's major works cover natural and

environmental resource management, terrain analysis, human dimension of environmental change, participatory local level planning, and sustainable development. He has served as Visiting Fellow/ Professor in several Indian and Foreign Universities/ Institutes. He has published more than 100 research papers, authored/ edited eight books, one Atlas and completed 40 research projects. Several Ph.D and MS students from India and abroad completed their dissertation under his guidance. Dr. Chattopadhyay served in various committees, academic bodies and professional organizations both at the National and International domains.

Moderator : Dr. T M Joseph, Hon.Professor, Prof.BS Bhargava Chair on Decentralized Governance and Development, CRM, Kottayam & Principal, Mount Carmel College, Karukadom, Kothamangalam, Kerala.

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Abstract

The social, cultural, economic, and ecological orders of the world are changing with the production of knowledge and its useful application. The transformation is necessary from a resource-intensive society to a knowledge-intensive society as there are limits to use and environmental fall out is counter-productive. The knowledge society will be deeply innovative, dependent on the use of human knowledge, sensitive to natural and environmental resource use, and ecological resilience. There is need for reorientation of many of our academic and professional activities. An integrated approach is called for to replace linear approach, hitherto being followed in most cases. Emergence of sustainability science can be traced to the societal urge for integration. This new field of sustainability science is a knowledge based approach. It is multidisciplinary in content and stresses on precision management, efficient resource use, multilevel decision making, and new knowledge generation to integrate science and society. Kerala's achievements in the social sector have met most of the criteria envisaged under social sustainability. However, on the ecological front, there are several challenges, and water management is one of them. In fact, proper water management is necessary to sustain the gain in social sector. This has been clearly acknowledged in the Sustainable Development Goal 6. Despite rich water resource base, Kerala faces several problems in effective utilisation of water, which is mostly management related. Due to strong ecological interdependence among elements of environment, and anthropogenic intervention tending to modify hydrological cycle, water management cannot be practiced in isolation, rather it has to be framed as part of human-environment interactive management. In this lecture, we intend to discuss issues related to human – environment interactive framework, challenges of water resource management as part of sustainability science, and scope of reconfiguring watershed management activities in Kerala as part of critical zone analysis.

Organized by

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All are Welcome

Please sign in at least 10 minutes before 6 .00 p.m (IST) on 17 April 2021

Greetings from Dr. Jos Chathukulam, Director, CRM, Kottayam, Kerala