

Name of the Centre : **ENVIS Centre on “Estuaries, Mangroves, Coral Reefs & Lagoons”**

Host Organisation : **Centre for Advanced Studies in Marine Biology (CASMB), Annamalai University, Parangipettai, Tamil Nadu**

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Tamil Nadu		

Year of establishment : **1992**

About Host Organisation

Annamalai University was founded by Raja Sir Annamalai Chettiar in 1929 and is located at Cuddalore district of Tamil Nadu. It has grown into one of the largest university in India. The faculties in the University includes Engineering, Medicine, Music, Dentistry, Pharmacy, Arts & Sciences, Physical Education, Agriculture, Marine Biology, Computer Science and many more including two centres of higher learning, viz. Centre for Advanced studies in Linguistics and Centre for Advanced Studies in Marine Biology . The Centre of Advanced Study in Marine Biology has been identified by the UGC under the committee on strengthening of infrastructure in the Science and Technology (COSIST) programme to receive Special Assistance to promote research and to raise it to international standards of scientific excellence in marine biology.

Activities of the Centre

- Collection of Information on the subject areas viz. Estuaries, Mangroves, Coral Reefs and Lagoons
- Bringing up good collection of books, reports, journals, etc. on the subject areas
- Developing database on the subject area
- Creation of Website on the subject area with regional language interface
- Identification of Information / data gaps in the subjects areas and action taken to fill these gaps.
- Monthly compilation of News items on the subject areas and publication of Newsletter.
- Establishing linkages with information users, carriers and provides from among Government, Academia, Business and NGO's

- ASFA (Aquatic Science and Fisheries Abstract) CD-ROM disc on information in the field of aquatic science and fisheries research provide searches on data base through authors, titles, subjects, keywords and serial numbers

ENVIS Publications

- ENVIS Newsletter**

- The ENVIS Centre publishes a bi-annual newsletter “Seshaiyana” since 1992. It carries featured articles and research notes in the field of Marine Science.

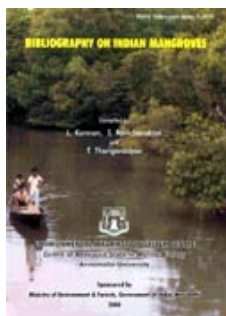
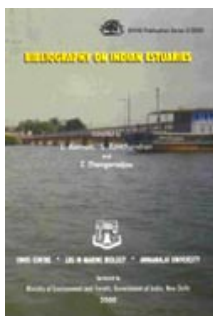
- Publications**



- Number of Books, Reports and bibliographies have been published by the Centre Following publications have been brought out so far :

- Special Publications**

- An Anthology of Indian Mangroves** : A commemorative volume on the Golden Jubilee of India's Independence. Contains 12 interesting articles contributed by country's mangrove experts. All are informative and will help refresh the bygone days of mangrove research, present status and future strategies to conserve the Indian mangroves.
- How to Know the Mangroves?** : This book contains the identification key to genera and species which are based mainly on the morphological characters so that only one can use this as “Field Guide” to identify the mangroves. The true mangrove are alone considered in this book covering 52 species under 29 genera and 21 families with illustrations.
- Living on the Edge** : In order to commemorate the International year of the Ocean 1998, the ENVIS Centre has published a special issue titled “Living on the Edge”. This book gathers lot of information from the experts who are living on the edges of the sea. This rare source of information will be very useful to the people of maritime habitats, researchers, planners and policy makers to arrive at a decision about the status of the coastal lands in our country and to adopt and recommend the strategies to upkeep the health of the ocean edges.



◆ Reports

- ◆ **Estuaries of India : State-of-the-art report** - This report covers the diverse fields of research in the Indian estuaries between 1985 and 1995. It includes a total of 29 estuaries (14 on the east coast and 15 on the west coast).
- ◆ **Mangroves of India: State-of-the-art report** - This report has been prepared on research works on Indian mangroves between 1987 and 1996. It includes the ecological, environmental, microbiological and socio-economical aspects of Indian mangroves.
- ◆ **Coral Reefs of India: State-of-the-art report** - This report consolidates the research works (upto 2000) on coral reefs carried out from various corners of the country. Coral reef ecosystems viz. Gulf of Kachchh, Lakshadweep Island, Palk Bay, Gulf of Mannar, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Kerala coast and Goa coast are covered in this report.
- ◆ **Lagoons of India: State-of-the-art report** - This report sketches out the lagoonal systems of the Indian coasts and also various research and developmental activities carried out in these areas. It covers 17 lagoonal systems, 8 on the east coast and 9 on the west coast. An attempt has also been made to assess the status of Indian lagoons.

◆ Bibliographies

- ◆ **Bibliography on Indian Estuaries** : The Bibliography on estuaries of India covers the research works carried out and published between 1981-1998. This bibliography contains about 1,000 publications which are conveniently classified under various subject headings viz. Geology, Chemistry, Hydrobiology, Microbiology, Phytoplankton, Zooplankton, Flora (macrophytes), Fauna, Fisheries, Ecology, Pollution and Management.
- ◆ **Bibliography on Indian Mangroves** : The Bibliography deals with various aspects

as Geology, Physico-chemistry, Microbiology, Biology, Ecology, Pollution & Toxicology and Conservation and Management of Indian Mangroves. Its embraces all available written materials either primary or peripherally, on mangroves.

- ◆ **Bibliography on Indian Coral Reefs** : The bibliography on Coral Reefs covers the diverse field of research works carried out and published in the Indian waters. It includes works on various aspects as Geology, Hydrobiology, Ecology, Taxonomy, Toxicology, Biochemistry, Microbiology, Plankton, Flora, Fauna and Conservation & Management pertaining to Coral reefs published during 1900-2000. There are about 206 species of corals recorded in our country. It provides easy access to available information and helps to procure them.
- ◆ **Bibliography on Indian Lagoons** : This bibliography enlists the studies made on lagoons in the Indian environment. It includes works on various aspects as Geology, Hydrobiology, Ecology, Microbiology, Plankton, Flora, Other invertebrates and Fisheries. This bibliography includes various research works carried out and published on Indian lagoons from 1900 to 2000. There are 17 noteworthy lagoons along the Indian coasts - 8 on the east and 9 on the west coasts.

Services

○ **Abstracting Services**

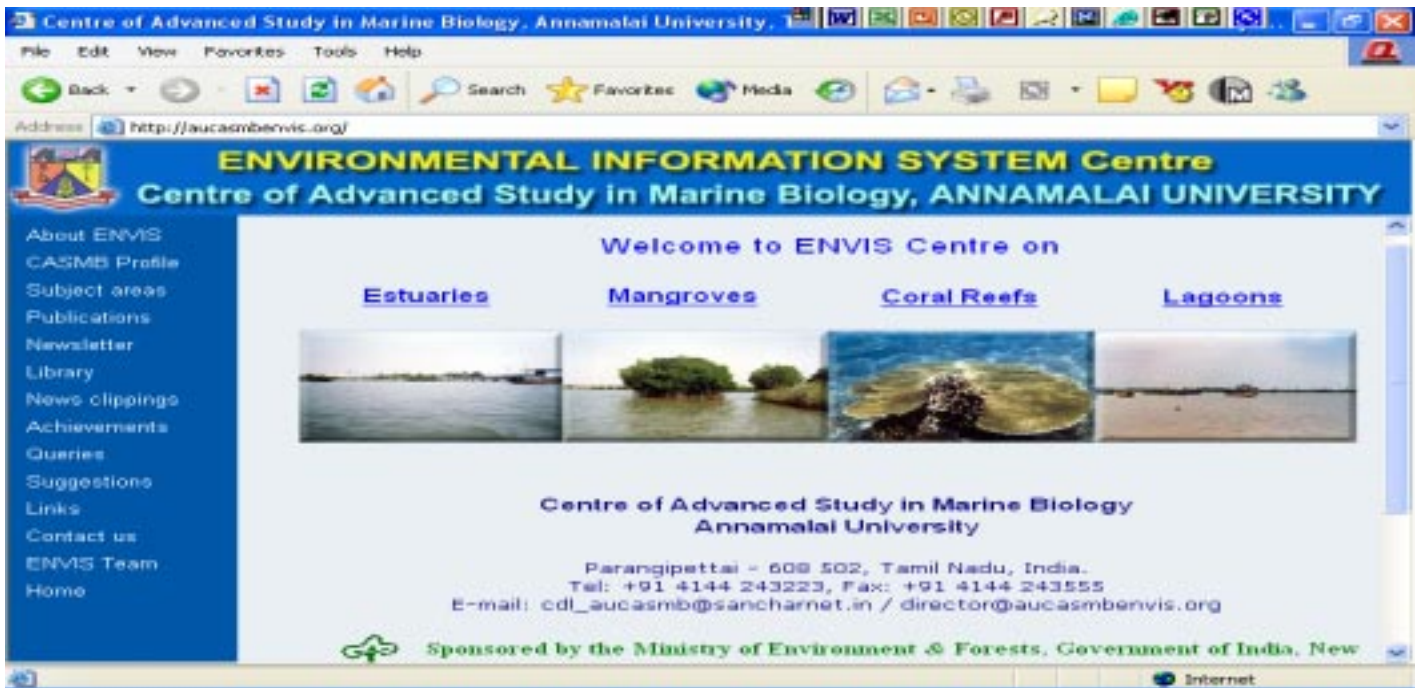
- ◆ 44,271 scientific abstracts have been sent to users from 2001 to 2002 Aug. Out of this 42,084 were downloaded in floppies & 2,187 are print out. About 1,473 reprints were supplied on request.

○ **Query Answer Services**

- ◆ The Centre is responding to about 1000 queries annually and procured many number of records to provide substantive information to the user community. The Centre is receiving queries from various research institutes, universities, colleges, governmental and non-governmental organizations mostly on ecology of mangroves, coral reefs and conservation and management of coastal wetland ecosystems.

CASMB Website (<http://aucasmbenvvis.org>)

- The website features the basic introduction and objective of the Centre along with the main tasks being done by it. The site gives summary of the bibliographic database, special publications on the Indian Mangroves, reports, news clippings from dailies, along with the list of all the 25 ENVIS Centres. The ENVIS Newsletter 'Seshaiyana' has been made online.



Future Plan

- Updating the State-of-the-art report - Estuaries of India & the State-of-the-art report - Mangroves of India are in the process. The checklist for Coral Species and CD for Bibliographies and Status Report are also under preparation.