

BRIEF PROFILE OF THE PANELISTS

Chetan B Sangi

Chetan B Sangi, senior IAS officer of 1988 batch, is the chief secretary of Puducherry state government. He joined the office of chief secretariat in May, last year. Previous to which he was working as the Resident Commissioner of Mizoram in New Delhi. He has also worked in Puducherry in 2003 and 2004 as Secretary to the Lieutenant Governor and held the portfolio of Industries and Public Works Department.

Sunita Narain

Sunita Narain is the director general of the Delhi based nonprofit, Centre for Science of one of India's most influential public interest research institutions and the director of the Society for Environmental Communications and publisher of the fortnightly magazine, Down To Earth. She is a writer and environmentalist, who uses knowledge for change. In 2005 she was awarded the Padma Shri by the Indian government. She has also received the World Water Prize for work on rainwater harvesting and for its policy influence in building paradigms for community based water management. Indian ministry of Environment and forests has appointed her the member and chairperson of various committees. The recent ones include – the Western Ghats Committee, Adani Inspection committee, Tiger task force committee, etc. She is a member of the Prime Minister's Council for Climate Change as well as the National Ganga River Basin Authority, chaired by the Prime Minister, which was set up to implement strategies for cleaning the river.

Chandra Bhushan

Chandra Bhushan is the Deputy Director General of the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE). He has a diverse and distinguished track of record in research, writing, and policy advocacy, having researched and written about issues ranging from industrial pollution regulations to energy security and climate change, and from water crisis to political economy of natural resource extraction. His five groundbreaking books on lifecycle analysis of industries are used by Indian industry and policymakers as handbooks for improving environmental policy and practices. He is also a member the working groups for reforming pollution regulations and regulatory institutions under the twelfth Five Year Plan of the Government of India. Mr. Bhushan's academic qualifications include a bachelor's degree in civil engineering and a master's in environmental planning and technology.

Ibrahim Naeem

Ibrahim Naeem is the head of SAARC Coastal Management Centre and Director General and head of the Maldives Protection Environment Agency. The SAARC Coastal Zone Management Centre (SCZMC) is a focal institution of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation which promotes regional cooperation in planning, management and sustainable development of the coastal zones, including research,

training and promotion of awareness. He also chairs the programme – Mangroves for the future. He has published books on coral reefs and fish resources in Maldives. Naeem was involved in the establishment of a biosphere reserve in Bai Atoll. He is also the head and chair of biosphere reserve advisory board of the country and Baa atoll conservation fund. Mr. Naeem's academic qualifications include a bachelor's degree in aquatics and a master's in environmental management from the Queensland university of Australia .

Anil Premratane

Anil Premaratane is the Director General, Coast Conservation Department Sri Lanka. He has been serving the coastal conservation department since 34 years. He was instrumental in formulation of coastal regulation laws in the country. He is also a member in various bodies like the SAARC coastal zone management governing body, Asia disaster management centre, etc. He also holds numerous publications on coastal issues in international journals. Mr. Premratane's academic qualification includes a bachelors in economics, a diploma in ocean resource management from the Institute of Hawaii, a masters in tropical coastal management and a doctorate from the Russian Petersburg University.

Manimul Haque Sarker

Manimul Haque Sarker is the Deputy Executive Director at Centre for Environmental and Geographic Information Services, Bangladesh. He has been working with CEGIS for 16 years. His areas of interest are river and flooding related analysis and mapping.

S S Ramakrishnan

S S Ramakrishnan is working as professor in the Institute of Remote sensing, Anna University. He is presently working in the field of microwave remote sensing. Institute of Remote Sensing, Anna University is one of the seven authorized agency which can demarcate Coastal Regulation Zone in India.

Naseer Khan Kashani

Naseer Khan Khasani works at the Balochistan Environment Protection Agency as the Director General. He belongs to the 1998 Pakistan Administrative Service cadre. He has done a masters in International relations and a bachelors in engineering from U S Southern Illinois University at Carbondale. He has also served as the Trade Counselor between Pakistan and Egypt from 2007 till 2012.

Gohulan Sivarajah

Gohulan Sivarajah works at the Central Environmental Authority, Sri Lanka as the Senior Environmental officer since 1997. He has done his bachelors of science in biology and a post graduate diploma in Environmental Science.

Md Ekram Ullah

Md Ekram Ullah works with Water Resources Planning Organization(WARPO) of Banagladesh. Mr. Ullah completed both his bachelors and masters in Marine sciences and joined the fisheries service department of Bangladesh in 1989. After serving for

about eight years in the fisheries department, he joined WARPO. He heads the environmental section of the organization. His principal interests include coastal and inland fisheries management, wetlands, etc.

Sugandh Juneja

Sugandh Juneja is working as the Deputy Programme Manager at Centre for Science and Environment. She has done extensive research on mining, Environmental Impact assessment policy of India. She also writes for the environmental magazine, Down to Earth. Apart she was also the author of books titled *Rich Lands, Poor People* and *Sharing the Wealth of Minerals*. Her academic qualifications include Bachelors in Economics from Delhi University and a Masters in Mass Communication and Journalism

Rifath Naeem

Rifath Naem works at the Environment Protection Agency as a Senior Analyst. At the moment he oversees coastal zone management unit. He is involved in studies like long term shoreline survey on Maldives erosion of coasts. His academic qualifications include a bachelors in marine science and technology and a post graduate certificate in integrated coastal zone management from Asian Institute of Technology.

Sudarshan Rodriguez

Sudarshan Rodriguez is a professional of multi-disciplinary background in environment sciences, environmental economics, policy and environmental law. He started his career in 1998 with UNDP-India, New Delhi as a Programme Development Specialist on their Environment & GEF Programme. Since 2010 Sudarshan has been a Senior Programme Coordinator with the Tata Institute of Social Sciences. His current interests are around trans-disciplinary processes and research on social-ecology and commons (social, cultural and natural resource), systems change in development, multi-stakeholder processes.

Aurofilio Schiavina

Aurofilio Schiavina works with a Pondicherry based nonprofit called PondyCAN as Coastal Management Consultant. His prime area of interest is the erosion issues of in Puducherry.

Aminath Nuzla Hameed

Aminath Nuzla Hameed works with the Ministry of Tourism Maldives as Director. She joined office in 2004. Currently Maldives receives more than a million tourists a year.

Suranga Pathirana

Suranga Pathirana works with the Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority(SLTDA) as the Assistant Director. He handles 'one stop unit' program in the organization. The one stop unit of SLTDA handles all the tourism investment projects in the country.

Debi Goenka

Debi Goenka works with the Conservation Action Trust, a Mumbai based nonprofit. Debi Goenka has been working in the field of environmental protection in India since 1975 and has pioneered several successful campaigns to protect the natural environment. Some of the most notable success stories have been the protection of mangroves, the protection of the Borivali National Park, and the success in protecting over 3,500 square kilometers of forests in Vidarbha from denotification. He has also been involved in campaigns to prevent the denotification of the Melghat Tiger Sanctuary, the notification of Dahanu Taluka as an ecologically sensitive area, the protection of the coastal areas of Murud Janjira, the declaration of the Nandur - Madhameshwar bird sanctuary, as well as the campaign against Enron.

Md Shahin Ali

Md Shahin Ali works as Policy officer in a Bangladesh based nonprofit called Youth Power Social Action. He started his career as a journalist in a newspaper called Bangladesh Observer. He then started working with the nonprofit YPSA to primarily advocate and campaign on the need for regulations for the ship breaking industry in Bangladesh. He is the Bangladesh co ordinator on NGO ship breaking platform based in Brussels.

Chris O Brien

Chris has been managing the Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem (BOBLME) Project since it began in May 2009 and is responsible for coordinating and overseeing the Project in the eight countries that border the Bay of Bengal. Chris has a background in Project Management and in particular, the development and delivery of fisheries science programmes for management. From 1996 to 2004 he was a Science Manager at the New Zealand Ministry of Fisheries; and prior to BOBLME, he was the Deputy Secretary at the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission, based in the Seychelles. Chris has a PhD in marine ecology from the University of New South Wales, Australia.

Zobaidur Rahman

Zobaidur Rahaman works at the IUCN – Bangladesh as communication Manager. He is involved in a project titled “Ecosystem for life”. “Ecosystems for Life” is a Bangladesh India project on trans boundary water resource management. Prior to joining IUCN, he worked for UNDP and European Union in Bangladesh as Communications Officer.

Md Tahir Qureshi

Tahir Quereshi is the Senior Advisor Coastal Ecosystem, Coastal & Marine Program Pakistan IUCN. In Pakistan, Tahir is known as the ‘Father of Mangroves’. He has single-handedly changed the face of coastal areas in a country where mangroves were considered wasteland until the 1970s. Tahir has a long track record of working with local communities. He trains coastal people on how to plant mangroves and in the various techniques needed to manage these areas.

P Gnanamoorthy

P Gnanamoorthy works with the MS Swaminathan Research Foundation. M S Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF) is a non-profit research organization and was established in 1988. MSSRF has all along been developing and following a pro-nature, pro-poor, pro-women and pro-sustainable on-farm and non-farm livelihoods through appropriate ecotechnology and knowledge empowerment.

Thalatha S Ranasinghe

Thalatha S Ranasinghe works as the Assistant Manager at Marine Environment protection authority (MEPA). She has been working at MEPA for the past five years. She has studied marine science technology.

KV Thomas

K V Thomas works as Scientist at the Centre for Earth Science Studies in Thiruvananthapuram. He is presently the head of the Marine Sciences division of the organisation. He has done his masters and doctorate degrees from Cochin University. He holds membership at the Indian Meteorological Society, Indian Society of Remote Sensing, Indian Society of Hydraulics, International Association of Hydraulic Engineering and Research.

Abi Abdullah

Abi Abdulla works at the Bangladesh Climate Change Trust under the Ministry of Environment and Forests in Bangladesh. He belongs to the Bangladesh Administrative Service cadre.

Mizan Rahman

Mizan Rahman works as the Co Team Leader in a Bhola (Bangladesh) based nonprofit called the Coastal Association for Social Transformation Trust. He has been with this organization for 11 years. He looks after the agriculture and livestock wing of his organization.

Hissan Hassan

Hissan Hassan works with the National Disaster Management Centre, Maldives as the director. Following the tsunami in 2004, the Government of Maldives has established a body called National disaster management centre is the focal institution which addresses the disaster management program in the country. The main focus area of the institution is post –disaster reconstruction process, focused coverage and delivery of rehabilitation packages, etc. It also helps in developing guiding principles for disaster management in the country.