## Dr. S Suresh Kumar

Dean, Faculty of Ocean Science Technology Director of Research.



Dr. S Suresh Kumar has significantly contributed to marine biodiversity, particularly in the Lakshadweep archipelago and the Central Indian Ocean. His groundbreaking research has led to remarkable discoveries and documentation of marine life.

## **Key Contributions**

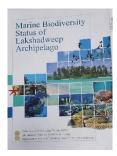
1. **Discovery of New Marine Fish Species**: Dr. Kumar's research has resulted in the identification and classification of **four new species of marine fish** from the Lakshadweep archipelago. His findings have provided critical insights into the taxonomy and diversity of marine life in the region.



2. Study of the Rare Basking Shark: Dr. Kumar has the distinction of collecting the only recorded specimen of the rare basking shark (*Megachasma pelagios*) in India. This significant achievement underscores his commitment to documenting rare and elusive marine species



3. Marine Biodiversity Compilation: He compiled the first comprehensive checklist of 2,458 aquatic taxa from the Lakshadweep archipelago. Published under the title *Marine Biodiversity Status of Lakshadweep Archipelago*, this work serves as a vital resource for researchers and conservationists, detailing the rich biodiversity of the region.



Dr. Kumar's contributions extend beyond academia, influencing marine conservation policies and promoting the sustainable management of aquatic ecosystems. His work highlights the importance of preserving marine biodiversity and emphasizes the need for ongoing research in marine science.