A Refresher Course on Plant Taxonomy, Biodiversity and Ethnobotany will be held at Post Graduate and Research Department of Botany, V. O. Chidambaram College, Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu from 12 to 25 November 2018 for the benefit of faculty involved in teaching undergraduate and postgraduate courses. Participants in this course will gain hands-on experience with about 25 experiments related to taxonomy and biodiversity conservation. Some of the experiments are in (a) plant collection, (b) preparation of herbarium, (c) botanical key for plant identification, (d) gene banks and germplasm, (e) flora biodiversity, (f) floristic diversity, (g) molecular markers, (h) diversity analysis, (i) ethnobotany and drug discovery. This course is sponsored by Indian Academy of Sciences, Bengaluru, Indian National Science Academy, New Delhi and The National Academy of Sciences, India, Allahabad.

Applications are invited from teachers with experience in teaching undergraduate and postgraduate courses in botany and allied life/biological science courses. Maximum 35 participants will be considered and teachers who wish to participate in the Refresher Course may apply through proper channel with the following details: name, date of birth, gender, e-mail, official and residential addresses, telephone numbers, academic qualifications, course taught, affiliation, positions held and tenure. It is also essential to submit a brief statement (between 250 and 500 words) as to why they think the course will help to improve their class room teaching on plant taxonomy, biodiversity and ethnobotany aspects.

Applications should be submitted through ONLINE by clicking the following link.

http://web-japps.ias.ac.in:8080/Refreshcourse/PZP.jsp

A printed copy of the application approved by the Head of the institution should be sent by speed post to: Dr V. R. Mohan, Associate Professor, Post Graduate and Research Department of Botany, V. O. Chidambaram College, Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu. Last date for receipt of applications: 5 October 2018. Outstation candidates will be provided local hospitality and round trip bus/train (three-tier AC) fare by the shortest route. Please note that participants have to attend the full duration of the course. Arrival 11 November and Departure 25 November 2018.

Course Director: Dr R. R. Rao, Former CSIR Emeritus Scientist, CIMAP Resource Centre, Allalasandra, GKVVK Post, Bengaluru.

Course Co-ordinator: Dr V. R. Mohan, Associate Professor, Post Graduate and Research Department of Botany, V. O. Chidambaram College, Thoothukudi 628 008, Tamil Nadu (e-mail: vrmohanvoc@gmail.com).