

contributions, like the one on seahorse, which do not fit in with a theme of the book should be deleted. Efforts in this direction will make the proceedings more impressive and useful.

Despite these avoidable errors, the book has brought out interesting information. It has drawn the attention of the following: (i) the endangered status of a couple of mahseer species and others; (ii) the danger of inbreeding and intro-

gressive hybridization among cultivable fish species; and (iii) the loss of genetic variability within a population through reduced population size, and degradation, fragmentation and loss of habitats. It is indeed heartening to know that the concept of fish conservation was practised by Emperor Ashoka (246 BC), who prohibited fishing activity during the spawning season. Therefore, we have greater responsibility of sustaining this legacy of

conservation. It is in this context, the book is timely and may be useful to fishery students, and biologists and policy makers, who are interested in conservation of fish biodiversity.

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DEPUTATION OF INDIAN SCIENTISTS ABROAD UNDER INSA EXCHANGE PROGRAMME DURING 1999-2000

A few slots are available for the nomination of promising young middle level scientists to visit abroad during the year 1999-2000 in all fields of science and technology under the INSA Scientific Exchange Programme with overseas academies/organizations in the following countries: **China, Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Japan, Poland, South Korea and Russia.** The scientists should hold a regular position in a University/S&T institution and be actively involved in research work in frontline areas. Preference would be given to those who are working at the Universities and collaborating with overseas scientists and not visited abroad during the last three years under any INSA programme. The interested scientists may forward details in the prescribed format (Name; Present position and Contact address; Country and period of visit; Date of birth; Educational qualifications; Research experience (attach a copy of biodata and the last 3 years publications); Purpose of visit (one-page summary may be attached); Details of the previous visits during the last 3 years with INSA support; support from the present institution) through Head of the Institution/Organization to *The Assistant Executive Secretary (IA), Indian National Science Academy, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi 110 002, (Tel: 323 2066/323 2075, Fax: 323 5648/323 1095) latest by 30 April 1999.* Candidates who applied in response to earlier notification need not apply.