The inland fishery of Sri Lanka is one of the major sources of affordable animal protein for rural communities. The reservoir fishery has undergone both rises and falls during the recent past. The major milestones were: (i) dramatic increase in production during 1980s, (ii) drastic decline in production from 39,750 tonnes in 1989 to about 12,000 tonnes in 1994, and (iii) revival of production to about 73,950 tonnes in 2016. Two introduced cichlid fish species, *Oreochromis mossambicus* and *O. niloticus*, are ubiquitous in reservoirs of Sri Lanka and are often labelled as invasive species. However, there is clear habitat segregation between these exotic cichlids and indigenous riverine species and as such, harmful impacts on native species are unlikely. Small indigenous cyprinids, which are abundant in perennial reservoirs of Sri Lanka, are not commercially exploited mainly due to restrictions imposed by gillnet mesh size regulations. In addition to capture fisheries in large and medium-sized reservoirs, there is a great potential for the development of culture-based fisheries in small village reservoirs.

**Biography**

Professor Upali S. Amarasinghe works at the Department of Zoology and Environmental Management at the University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka, completed his M.Sc. in fisheries biology at the University of Wales in 1984, and Ph.D. in inland fisheries at the University of Ruhuna in 1991. Upali has been instrumental for providing a scientific basis for the development and management of reservoir fisheries in Sri Lanka.