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Dr. D. Sivananda Pai, holds an M.Sc (Physics) with first rank from the Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam, M.Tech (Applied Optics) with second rank from Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi and holds a Ph.D Degree in Atmospheric Science from the University of Pune. Dr. Pai is a life member of India Meteorological Society and Indian Climate Congress.

Dr. Pai, presently serves as Head, Climate Research & Services at IMD, Pune having joined IMD in 1992 and has in different capacities including research, operational services, teaching etc. During his 27 years of service at IMD, he has made outstanding contribution in the field of weather & climate services. He has been part of various teams that developed several models currently used by IMD for operational seasonal forecasting.

Dr. Pai has published more than 55 papers in various National and International journals and more than 15 research reports. He has also presented more than 25 papers in seminars/symposia/workshops both in India and abroad. Dr. Pai is a reviewer for several national and international journals. He is also a regular faculty for the Climate Science at the Meteorological Training Institute, Pune. He is a recognized guide of Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune in the field of Atmospheric and Space Sciences.

Dr. Pai has served as a member of the WMO CBS Expert Team on Extended and Long-Range Forecasting, co-leader of the WMO Task Team on Regional Climate Outlook Forums (TT-RCOFs) during 2014-16 & leader of TT-RCOFs from 2017-2018. At present he is the co-lead of WMO Inter-Programme Expert Team on Regional Climate Activities (IPET-RCA).

Since 2010, Dr. Pai, also leads the team that prepares the seasonal consensus forecast outlook for the southwest monsoon & northeast rainfall for south Asia region every year under South Asian Climate Outlook Forum (SASCOF). He is also responsible for planning and conducting yearly capacity building workshops in seasonal prediction for operational forecasters from south Asian countries under SASCOF activities since 2011.

Dr. Pai is the recipient of award of excellence for outstanding performance for the year 2008 by IMD, Pune, Certificate of merit for young Scientists/ Engineers in Atmospheric Sciences for the year 2010 by Ministry of Earth Sciences, Indian Meteorological Society (IMS) Award for the best paper published on Weather and Climate Services during 2011-2012 period, IMS Award for best paper published on Monsoon Research during 2015-16 period and Certificate in appreciation of services to the WMO technical commission for climatology during the sixteenth intersessional period (2014-2018) for significant contributions while serving as Lead of the task team on Regional Climate Outlook Forums (TT-RCOFs).