M.S.60. REVIKALA, S.–Some aspects of phytoplankton blooms in relation to pelagic fishes– 1986–Dr. V.D. Ramamurthy.

A total number of 25 phytoplankton blooms were studied. Characterization of the phytoplankton blooms includes observing the cell counts (cells/ml) from the day of its appearance till its disappearance.

Out of the total blooms, 17 were caused by diatoms, 5 by dinoflagellates and 3 by blue green algae. In the region of diatom and blue green alga blooms lot of pelagic fishes were seen. Fishes avoided the dinoflagellate blooms but no mortality, off odour or irritation were noticed. The gut contents of the pelagic fishes found in the bloomed regions revealed that the bloomed organisms were very common in the guts. An year round study of the gut content analysis of the pelagic fishes from September 1983 to August 1984 were done in order to see whether the bloomed organisms are included or not in the general feed.

The diatoms like *Pv zidicule minuta* Grunow, *Cyclotella* spp., *Coscinodiscus* spp., *Rhizosolenia* spp., *Biddulphia* spp. and *Fragilaria oceanica* Cleve were seen more in the guts of some the pelagicc fishes during, before and after the bloom period.