



ZSI enews



सत्यमेव जयते



Ministry of Environment,
Forest and Climate Change



From the Director's Desk



It is a matter of pride and honour to unfurl the Indian Tricolour on the 73rd Republic Day of the 75th year of Independence as the Director of ZSI. Hence it gives me immense pleasure to present the January 2022 issue of E-News of ZSI to the readers on this auspicious month. The New year is ushered in ZSI by conducting surveys to explore the fauna in different ecosystems of Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Mizoram and Nagaland in the north-east, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh and Bihar in the north, Gujarat in the west, West Bengal and Odisha in the east, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Kerala and Tamil Nadu in the south, and Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep in the oceanic realm of the country. Progress in the first month of the year is commendable with the identification of 17331 specimens comprising 2386 species covering majority of faunal groups in the phylum Protozoa to Mammalia. Among them, 4 species are new to science while 16 species are new addition to Indian fauna. Apart from that 56 species of fauna have been augmented with the National Zoological Collections during the month. ZSI is encouraging the generation of barcodes of faunal species, in which 114 DNA barcodes were generated for different species and uploaded in NCBI/BOLD. Identification and advisory services is one of the significant activities of ZSI through which 37 services were rendered to various institutions and law enforcing agencies to combat wildlife crime. Outcome of research findings of ZSI is regularly been published and in January 2022 is witnessed with the publication of 6 books, 40 papers and 17 book chapters. ZSI celebrated 73rd Republic Day in its all 16 Regional Centres across the country and Headquarters at Kolkata.

I congratulate all my colleagues of ZSI for their appreciable scientific contribution.

Jai Hind

Dr. DHRITI BANERJEE
Director
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Kolkata

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HEADQUARTERS, KOLKATA

Survey conducted in Lakshadweep during 5th to 20th January 2022 and covered Agatti, Kavaratti, Minicoy, Bangaram, Suheli islands of the archipelago; 5th to 18th January 2022 to study the freshwater turtles in Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan; 20th December 2021 to 10th January 2022 to study the hymenopteran insects in Mizoram, Manipur and Nagaland. Altogether 7279 specimens comprising 827 species under different faunal groups were identified. Among them three species viz. *Coleoptera*, *Elaphropoda arunachalensis* Saini, Chandra, Kumar and Hooda, 2021 and *Elaphropoda guptai*, Saini, Chandra, Kumar and Hooda, 2021 and crustacean isopod *Norileca hathai* Aneesh, Nashad and Kumar, 2022 were described as new to science, 12 species viz., *Odnarda leechi*, *Torona lucida*, *Himalodontosia mahendra*, *Periphallera albicauda*, *Pseudosomera noctuiformis yunwu*, *Tarsolepis taiwana*, *Ogulina ochrocinerea*, *Syntypistis synechochlora*, *S. witoldi* and *Ptilodon amplius* under the family Notodontidae and *Casminola arminbecheri* and *Casminola johannstumpfi* under the family Nolidae were reported as new to Indian fauna. Forty two species belonging to protozoans, annelid, nematodes, molluscs, trichopteran, coleopteran, hemipteran and orthopteran insects, mites and fishes have been augmented to National Zoological Collections. Identification and Advisory services rendered on confiscated materials to Office of the, Dy. Commissioner of Police (Detection), Crime Branch, C.I.D., Mumbai; Dy. Commissioner of police Thane; The Asst. Inspector of police, Maharashtra; Office of the, Dy. Commissioner of Police Zone 3, Mumbai-30, Judicial Magistrate, Tamil Nadu; Range Officer, Kavaratti Island, Lakshadweep; The Enquiry Officer cum Forest Range Officer, WCCC & DMU Under Deputy Conservator of Forests, Wildlife (Headquarters) Division, Kolkata; and Deputy Commissioner of Customs, Export Shed, ACC Export Commissionerate, New Delhi, Bharathidasan University on Elasmobranchs specimens and Dept. of Zoology, University of Calcutta, West Bengal, Uttar Banga Krishi Viswavidyalaya, Cooch Behar, West Bengal on Araneae. The Aspiration for India Vision@2047 in respect of ZSI and ZSI Objective/Outcome, Targets and Achievements for the FY 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22 submitted to MoEFCC for preparation of background notes for the department related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Science and Technology. 73rd Republic Day was celebrated with the participation of officers and staff in which Dr. Dhriti Banerjee, Director, ZSI unfurled the National Flag and delivered the address.



Republic Day Celebration at ZSI Headquarters, Kolkata

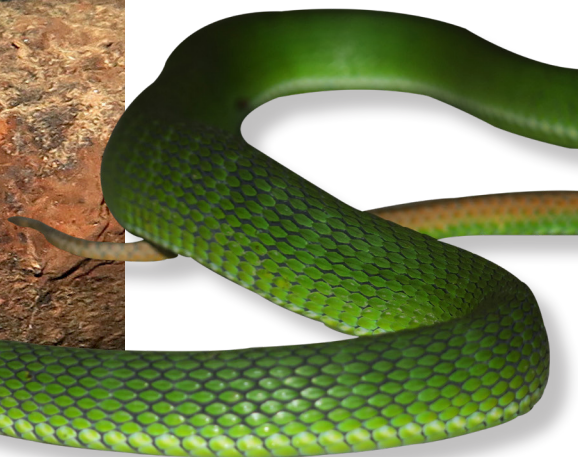
NORTH EASTERN REGIONAL CENTRE, SHILLONG, MEGHALAYA

Miostrellus joffrei
(Thomas, 1915)



Trimeresurus erythrurus
(Cantor, 1839)

Fifty six species comprising 27 spp. of fishes, 08 spp. of amphibians, 03 spp. of reptiles, 03 spp. of mammals, 03 spp. of crustaceans and 12 spp. of hemipteran insects were identified. Reviewed a MVSc thesis of college of Veterinary Sciences, Assam Agriculture University, Guwahati and reviewed manuscript for *Records of Zoological survey of India*. Republic Day was celebrated with in-house activities.



WESTERN REGIONAL CENTRE, PUNE, MAHARASHTRA

Marayur mountain
Munnar



Identification and advisory services rendered on the confiscated material (piece of skin) of water buffalo, *Bubalus bubalis* (Linnaeus, 1758), to the Range Forest Officer, Thane, Maharashtra and deer antler to the Assistant Police Inspector, Crime Branch Unit 6, Pune, Maharashtra.

73rd Republic Day
celebrated in WRC

One field survey conducted to Lakshadweep from 5th to 20th January 2022. A total of 1285 zoological specimens under 159 species from Coleoptera, Diptera, Lepidoptera, Decapoda, Mollusca, Amphibia and Mammalia have been identified during this month. Thirty DNA barcodes generated for 19 species, 15 (mt 16s rRNA) belonging to amphibians and 15 (mt COI) belonging to small mammals and were submitted to the GenBank.



CENTRAL ZONE REGIONAL CENTRE, JABALPUR, MADHYA PRADESH

Survey conducted to Western Madhya Pradesh (Hoshangabad, Harda, Ujjain, Shahjapur, Mandsaur, Sheopur, Morena and Sagar) from 7th to 17th January 2022 to study the diversity, ecology, biology and associated traditional knowledge about medically important species of scorpions. Further, Lepidoptera (moths): 40 species; Lepidoptera (butterflies): 12 species; Hemiptera: 11 species; Arachnida: Scorpiones: 05 species; Arachnida: Amblypygi: Phrynichidae: 01 species, Amphibia: Anura: 06 species; Reptilia: 07 species were identified.

Gyps bengalensis
(Gmelin, 1788)



Gavialis gangeticus
(Gmelin, 1789)



DESERT REGIONAL CENTRE, JODHPUR, RAJASTHAN

One local survey conducted to Khichan Bird Sanctuary, Phalodi, Rajasthan on 21st January, 2022; about 3000 individuals of Kurjaa-demoiselle crane *Grus virgo* (Linnaeus, 1758) were recorded. Total 471 exs referable to 51 species have been identified by the Scientists of the Centre. Scientists of the centre reviewed research papers on Pisces for Uttar Pradesh Journal of Zoology and J. of threatened taxa. Republic Day function was celebrated on the auspicious day i.e. 26th January, 2022 at the Centre.

Gazella bennettii (Sykes, 1831)



Republic day
celebration at DRC



NORTHERN REGIONAL CENTRE, DEHRADUN, UTTARAKHAND

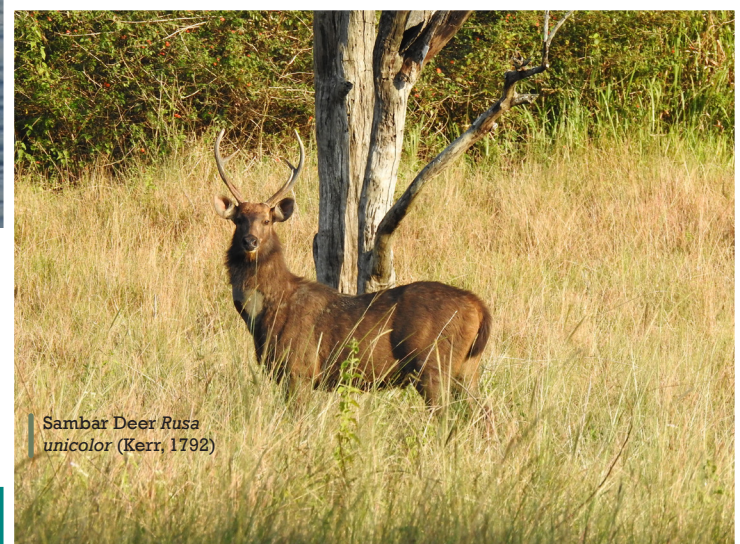


Ashy Prinia, *Prinia socialis* (Sykes, 1832)

Degree Committee Meeting to evaluate the synopsis of 25 Research Scholars towards their Ph.D. in Zoology organized by Director (Research), Kumaun University, Uttarakhand through virtual mode on 04th January, 2022. Republic Day celebrated on 26 January, 2022.

Scientists of the centre examined 449 specimens and identified 72 species which includes 3 spp. of Protozoa (Testate amoebae); 10 spp. of Phthiraptera; 7 spp. of Odonata; 25 spp. of Lepidoptera; 12 spp. of Mollusca; 12 spp. of Pisces and 3 spp. of Amphibia. Two DNA barcodes of Orthoptera and Lepidoptera were generated. Scientist served as an External Expert Member for the Research

SOUTHERN REGIONAL CENTRE, CHENNAI, TAMIL NADU



Sambar Deer *Rusa unicolor* (Kerr, 1792)

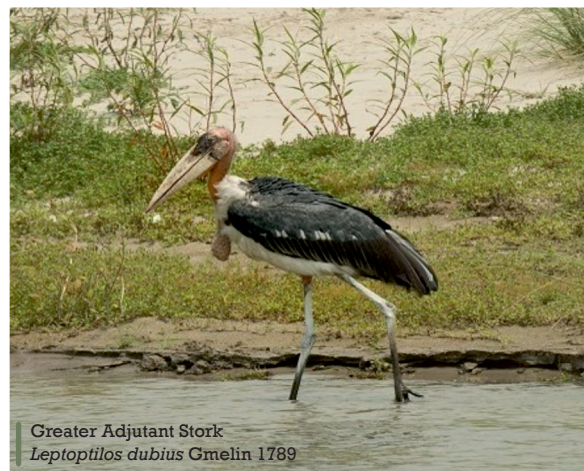
The scientists of the centre identified and registered 1,010 specimens into 167 species of various faunal groups viz. Zooplankton, Lepidoptera, Odonata, Hemiptera, Blattodea, Psocoptera, Mollusca, Pisces, and Reptiles. The tiger beetle, *Janseni anathanorum* Cassola & Warner has been augmented to the centre. The scientists reviewed manuscripts for two journals. The 73rd Republic Day was celebrated in the office premises of the Zoological Survey of India, Chennai.

GANGETIC PLAINS REGIONAL CENTRE, PATNA, BIHAR



Osprey *Falco haliaetus*
Linnaeus 1758

Altogether 1322 specimens comprising 71 species of moths and molluscs were identified. various faunal groups viz. Zooplankton, Lepidoptera, Odonata, Hemiptera, Blattodea, Psocoptera. A lepidopteran insect *Lophoptera trigonoprocessa* reported as new to India.



Greater Adjutant Stork
Leptoptilos dubius Gmelin 1789

HIGH ALTITUDE REGIONAL CENTRE, SOLAN, HIMACHAL PRADESH



Red billed chough, *Pyrrhocorax*
pyrrhocorax (Linnaeus, 1758)



Republic day
celebrations at
ZSI, SOLAN

Scientists of this Centre registered and digitised 236 specimens of different faunal groups and identified 78 species, (62 species of Lepidoptera, 03 species of Amphibia, 02 species of reptilia, 11 Species of Orthoptera). Identification services were rendered on Lepidoptera to ICAR Institute of Spices Research, Kozhikode, Kerala, Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Panthaghatti, Shimla and Department of Zoology, Panjab University, Chandigarh. 04 research papers reviewed on Lepidoptera for different Journals. Observed the National Voter day in the Centre on January 25, 2022 and celebrated Republic day on January 26, 2022.

MARINE BIOLOGY REGIONAL CENTRE, CHENNAI, TAMIL NADU

Turbinaria sp. in
Gulf of Mannar

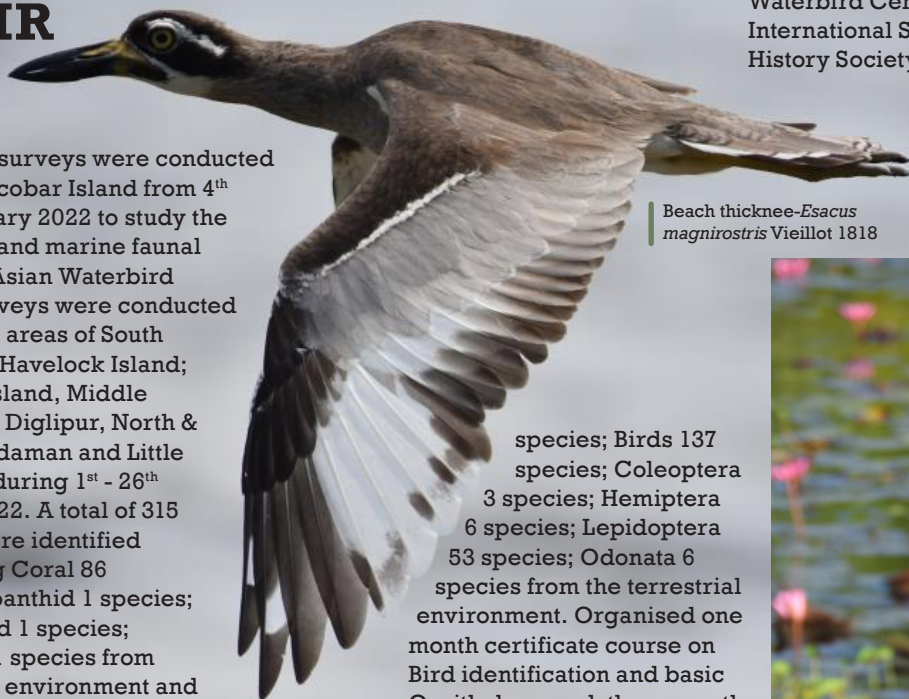


Scientists of the centre identified 62 species from 237 examples, including Moss inhabiting Testate Amoebae 21 species, Nematode 11 species, Mollusca 08 species, Pisces 22 species,. One hundred and twenty-two fish samples were added to National Zoological Collection obtained from the surveys to the fish landing centres in Chennai. Four carapaces of freshwater turtle species protected under Schedule-I of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, belonging to the species *Melanochelys tricarnata* (Blyuth, 1856) (01 ex.) and *Lissemys punctata* (Bonnaterre, 1789) (03 exs.), were identified for Director, Advanced Institute for Wildlife Conservation, (Research, Training & Education), Vandalur, Chennai. A new species of branchial fish parasitic isopod, *Norileca hathai* Aneesh, Nashad and Kumar, 2022 (Crustacea: Isopoda: Cymothoidae), reported from the Andaman Islands was published.

ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR REGIONAL CENTRE, PORT BLAIR

Long term surveys were conducted at Great Nicobar Island from 4th to 31st January 2022 to study the terrestrial and marine faunal diversity. Asian Waterbird census surveys were conducted at different areas of South Andaman; Havelock Island; Baratang Island, Middle Andaman, Diglipur, North & Middle Andaman and Little Andaman during 1st - 26th January 2022. A total of 315 species were identified comprising Coral 86 species; Zoanthid 1 species; Pycnogonid 1 species; Hydrozoa 1 species from the marine environment and Amphibia 13 species; Reptilia 8

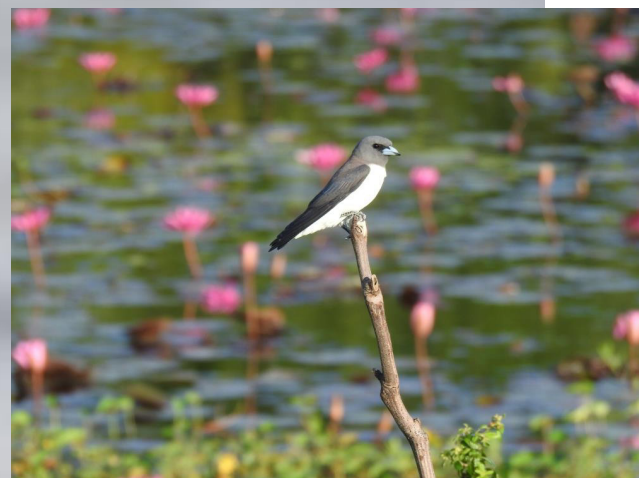
certificate course on Para-taxonomy including preparation of people's biodiversity register from 3rd January 2022 under the Green Skill Development Programme. Conducted Asian Waterbird Census in association with Wetland International South Asia and Bombay Natural History Society from 1st - 10th January 2022.



Beach thick-knee-*Esacus
magirostris* Vieillot 1818

White Breasted Woodswallow
Artamus leucorhynchus
Linnaeus 1771

species; Birds 137 species; Coleoptera 3 species; Hemiptera 6 species; Lepidoptera 53 species; Odonata 6 species from the terrestrial environment. Organised one month certificate course on Bird identification and basic Ornithology and three month



SUNDERBAN REGIONAL CENTRE, CANNING, WEST BENGAL



Lepidochelys olivacea
(Eschscholtz, 1829)



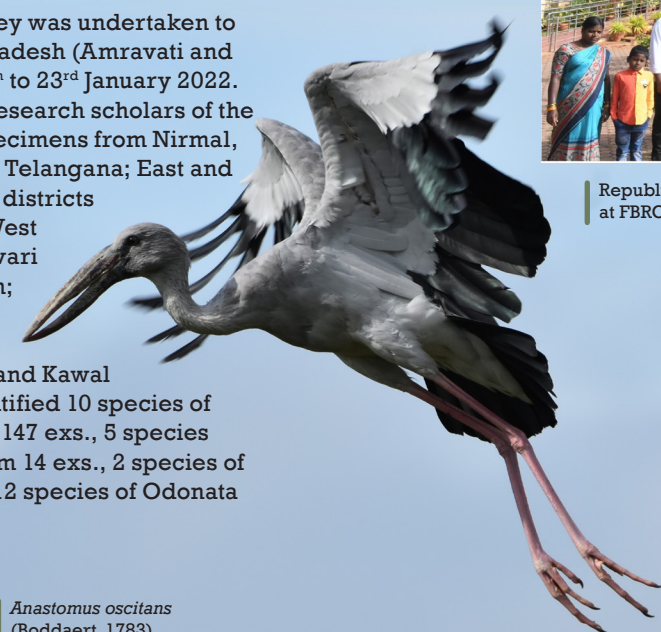
*Rhynchocinetes
durbanensis*
Gordon, 1936

19.01.2022

Survey conducted along Visakhapatnam coast, Andhra Pradesh from 17th to 26th January 2022 and collected samples of molluscs, cnidarians, sponges, fishes, echinoderms, crustaceans, ascidians, flat worms and annelids. During the survey, documented sea turtle copulation in Chinthapalli reef region, Visakhapatnam coast. One day local survey conducted in Sunderbans on 26.01.2022. A total 1456 examples (83 sp.) were identified and 215 examples were digitized. 73rd Republic Day celebrated in the centre on 26th January 2022.

FRESHWATER BIOLOGY REGIONAL CENTRE, HYDERABAD, TELANGANA

An extensive faunal survey was undertaken to Smart cities of Andhra Pradesh (Amravati and Visakhapatnam) from 10th to 23rd January 2022. The scientists, staff and research scholars of the centre identified 1016 specimens from Nirmal, Nagarkurnool districts of Telangana; East and West Singhbhum, Gumla districts of Jharkhand; Krishna, West Godavari and East Godavari districts, Andhra Pradesh; (Rollapadu Wildlife Sanctuary; Papikonda National Park, Amrabad and Kawal Tiger Reserves) and identified 10 species of Aquatic Coleoptera from 147 exs., 5 species of aquatic Hemiptera from 14 exs., 2 species of Lepidoptera from 2 exs., 12 species of Odonata



Anastomus oscitans
(Boddaert, 1783)



Republic Day celebration
at FBRC

from 44 exs., 6 species of Ostracoda from 94 exs., 3 species of Branchiopoda from 10 exs., 9 species of Mollusca from 223 exs., and 50 species of fishes from 481 exs, during the month of January. Twenty two DNA barcodes were submitted to NCBI and BOLD.

WESTERN GHAT REGIONAL CENTRE, KOZHIKODE, KERALA

Republic day celebration at WGRC



Deiphobe mesomelas
(Olivier, 1792)

Scientists of the Centre identified 58 species (Hymenoptera 27 spp., Araneae 05 spp., Mantodea 08 spp., Dermaptera 7 spp. and Coleoptera 11 spp.). One species is new record for India. *Methocha ubiquita* Krombein, 1982 (Hymenoptera: Tiphidae). Identified 01 species of Pteromalid wasp for Dept. of Agr. Entomology, Anand Agricultural university, Gujarat, identified one species of wasp for Kuvempu University, Shimoga, Karnataka based on photographs. one species of wasp for Annamalai University, Tamil Nadu based on photographs. Reviewed one manuscript on Hymenoptera for *Journal of Threatened taxa*.

ESTUARINE BIOLOGY REGIONAL CENTRE, GOPALPUR-ON-SEA, ODISHA

A total of 466 specimens were identified which includes Isopods, crabs and fishes belonging to 105 species and from surveys 629 specimens were



Lissemys punctata (Bonnaterre 1789)



Tringa glareola Linnaeus, 1758

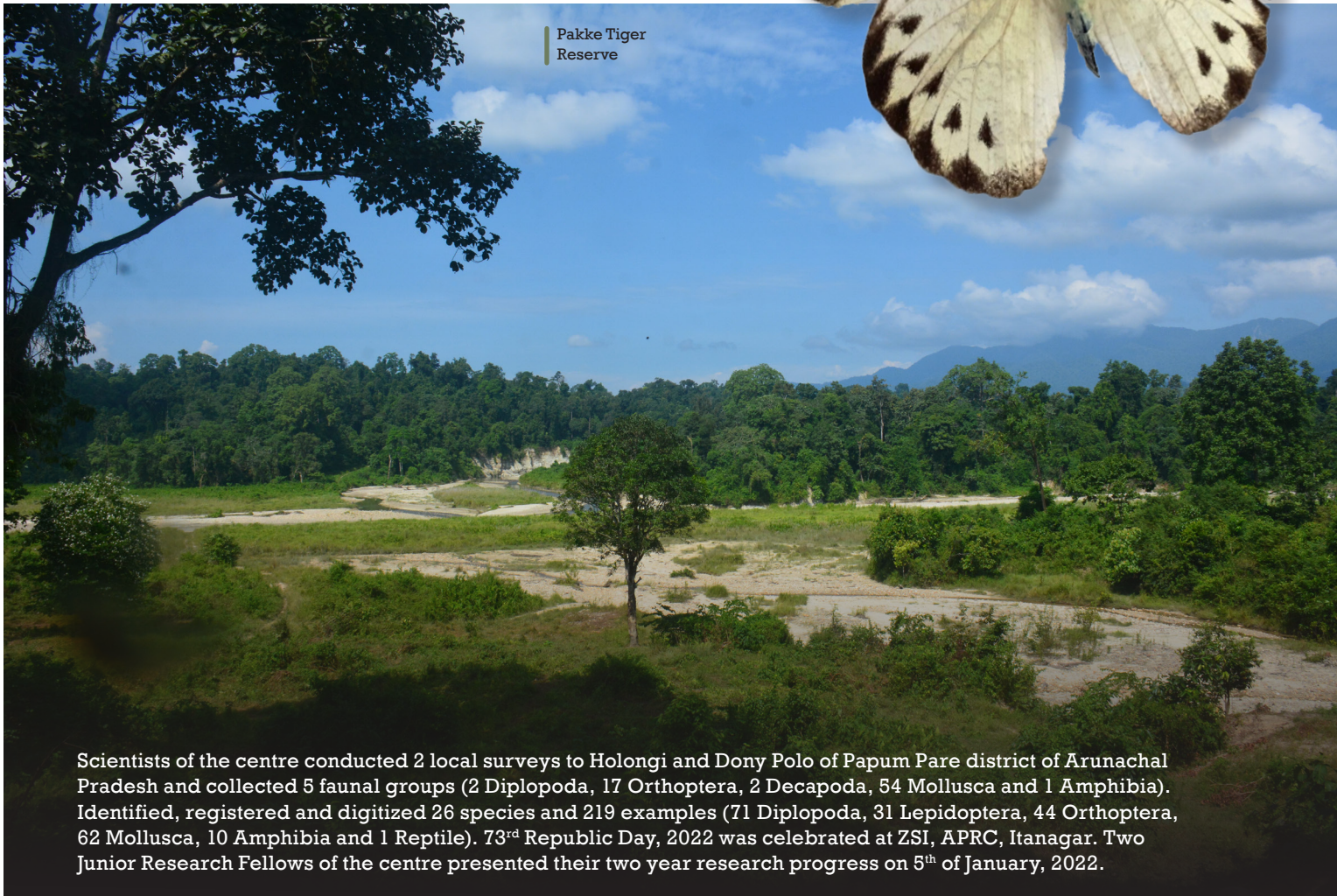
added to the collection of this centre. Seventy turtles were tagged offshore. One DNA barcode was uploaded in the NCBI database. Dr. Anil Mohapatra and Shri Ashish K Das have participated in Waterfowl census on 5th January, 2022 for Berhampur Forest division. Dr. Anil Mohapatra, participated in Dolphin census for Chilika lagoon on 9th January, 2022. Scientists reviewed 8 manuscripts for different journals.

ARUNACHAL PRADESH REGIONAL CENTRE, ITANAGAR

Hebomoia glaucippe
(Linnaeus 1758)



Pakke Tiger
Reserve



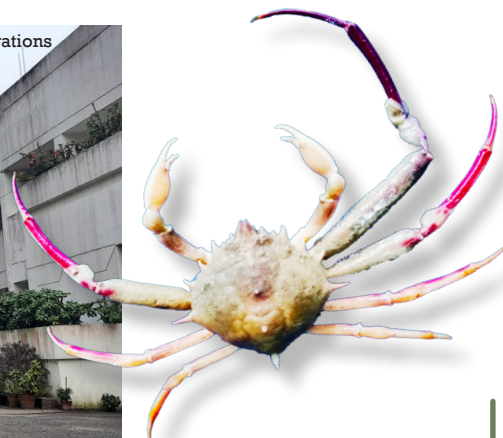
Scientists of the centre conducted 2 local surveys to Holongi and Dony Polo of Papum Pare district of Arunachal Pradesh and collected 5 faunal groups (2 Diplopoda, 17 Orthoptera, 2 Decapoda, 54 Mollusca and 1 Amphibia). Identified, registered and digitized 26 species and 219 examples (71 Diplopoda, 31 Lepidoptera, 44 Orthoptera, 62 Mollusca, 10 Amphibia and 1 Reptile). 73rd Republic Day, 2022 was celebrated at ZSI, APRC, Itanagar. Two Junior Research Fellows of the centre presented their two year research progress on 5th of January, 2022.

MARINE AQUARIUM AND REGIONAL CENTRE, DIGHA, WEST BENGAL

Conducted two days local survey [09th & 18th January 2022] at Digha Mohana, West Bengal and collected 06 specimens of sea pen. Scientist of this centre have been identified totally 329 specimens of 77 species belonging to fishes 46 spp., Mollusca 15 spp., Isopod 06 spp. and Crab 10 spp. 10 live specimens have been added to aquarium. Evaluated one Ph.D. thesis for Bharathidasan University, Tamil Nadu and reviewed two manuscripts for *Journal of Parasitic Diseases* and *Indian Journal of Experimental Biology*. 73rd Republic Day was celebrated at ZSI, MARC, Digha on 26th January 2022.



Republic Day Celebrations
at MARC, Digha



Doclea rissoni
Leach, 1815

NEW DISCOVERIES AND NEW RECORDS

NEW RECORDS



Methocha ubiquita
Krombein, 1982

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BOOK CHAPTERS

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POPULAR ARTICLES

1. Archana, B. 2022. Phulon kee ghatti.. aalokik esthaan , *Lok Ganga magazine*, pp 11.
2. Saikia, B. 2022. "Meghalaya @ 50: Landscape & Biodiversity". *Shillong Times*, 23rd January. 2022.

MEETINGS ATTENDED

1. Dr. Dhriti Banerjee, Director attended ESW 9th Annual National Research Conference on "Impact of Environment Stressors on Human and Disaster Management" organized by Environment and Social Welfare Society, Khajuraho, Madhya Pradesh, India on 30 & 31 January, 2022 at UNESCO Heritage site, Khajuraho. In this event Dr. Banerjee released a book on 'Environmental Studies and Disaster Management'.
2. Dr. Dhriti Banerjee, Director given inaugural address (Virtual) to Three-month certificate course on Para-Taxonomy including preparation of People's Biodiversity Register (PBR) & one month certificate course on *Bird Identification & Basic Ornithology* (second batch) under the Green Skill Development Programme (GSDP), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India started from 3rd January, 2022 at ZSI ANRC, Port Blair
3. Dr. Dhriti Banerjee, Director chaired the 18th Editorial Board Meeting of the Publication Division held on 4th January, 2022 at the ZSI HQ, Kolkata
4. Dr. Dhriti Banerjee, Director conducted meeting to discuss Biodiversity & Habitat (BDH) issues category indicators (Fauna) of EPI hosted by MoEFCC as part of ICPMU on 13th January, 2022
5. Dr. C. Raghunathan, Scientist-E attended 18th Editorial Board meeting of ZSI as a Member on 4th January 2022; Chaired the meeting with PDFs of ZSI for preparation baseline data of faunal diversity in North East under GIZ project
6. Dr. C. Raghunathan, Scientist-E attended the meeting to finalize the document of Intergovernmental Panel for Climate Change (IPCC) Working Group III ARS Summary for Policy Makers and provide glean comments to prepare India's position on the subject organized by MoEFCC on 23rd January 2022.
7. Dr. C. Raghunathan, Scientist-E attended the 36th Meeting of Lakshadweep Coastal Zone Management Authority organized by Lakshadweep Administration held on 28th January 2022 through virtual mode.
8. Dr. K. A. Subramanian Scientist- E, attended 65th ABS meeting of NBA on 24th January, 2021.
9. Dr. C. Sivaperuman, Scientist-E attended meeting with officials of Principal Scientific Advisor, Ministry of Culture, & Prasara Bharati, Government of India in connection with the Vigyan Sarvatre Pujyate - Science Week Festival to be held during 22-28th February 2022 on 19th & 25th January 2022; attended meeting as a member in the building maintenance committee at Regional Medical Research Centre, Port Blair on 7th January 2022
10. Dr. C. Sivaperuman, Scientist-E organised meeting with officials Research Institutions, College, School in connection with the Vigyan Sarvatre Pujyate - Science Week Festival to be held during 22-28th February 2022 on 21st January 2022 through online.
11. Dr. Deepa Jaiswal, Scientist-E attended DRC meeting on 20th January 2022 organised by Govt Arts & Science College, Kumbhakonam, Tamilnadu through virtual mode.
12. Dr. Deepa Jaiswal Scientist-E & Dr. M. Karuthapandi, Scientist-C attended virtual meeting on "Biosurvey of Eastern Ghats" on "Faunal Resources -utilisation by BMC members" organised by Andhra Pradesh Biodiversity Board on 21st and 25th January 2022.
13. Dr. M. E. Hassan, Scientist – E attended three days online training programme on "Records Management for Right to information" held from 12th to 14th January 2022 organised by ISTM, New Delhi (deputed by DZSI)
14. Dr. Gopal Sharma, Scientist-E attended the training for range-wide estimation of river dolphins organized by WII Dehradun on 25.01.2022
15. Ms. Jennifer Lyngdoh, Sci-E attended the 27th meeting of the Governing Body of the Meghalaya Zoo Project Implementation Society held on 14.01.2022 at the O/O the PCCF & HoFF, Meghalaya, Shillong.
16. Dr. Rahul Joshi, Scientist-C attended meeting of editorial board of Moths of India organized by "Titli Trust" on 19th January 2022.
17. Dr. Basudev Tripathy, Scientist-E attended meeting on BDH issue category indicators (fauna related) of EPI as part of ICPMU, organised by MoEFCC, Statistics Division on 13th January 2022; attended meeting on establishment of Snake Research Institute

and project proposal for Snakes, snakebite and mitigation of human snake conflict in Gujarat and adjacent districts, India, organized by Gujarat Forest Department on 25th January 2022; attended meeting on establishment of Snake Research Institute and project proposal for Snakes, snakebite and mitigation of human snake conflict in Gujarat and adjacent districts, India, organized by Gujarat Forest Department on 25th January 2022; attended meeting for finalising the modality for implementation on the project on Inventory of aquatic species and identification of biodiversity hotspots in the North Eastern Region of India, organized by ZSI HQs, Kolkata on 14th January 2022.

18. Dr. Bikramjit Sinha, Sci-E, attended the online MDP on "Natural Resources and Environment Management" organized by IIFM, Bhopal during 17-21 January 2022.
19. Dr.S.Sambath, Scientist-E attended as an external expert for an interview for the promotion of Group I, II & III of Technical Officers of ICMR-NIRTH, Jabalpur on 10.01.2022.
20. Dr. Pratyush P. Mohapatra, Scientist-D attended meeting with the Snake Research Institute, GFRF, Govt. of Gujarat on 25th January 2022.
21. Dr. P.C. Pathania, Scientist-D attended 18th Editorial Board Meeting of the Publication Division, ZSI, HQ, Kolkata on 4th January, 2022 at 11.00 AM Hrs under the Chairmanship of Director, ZSI.
22. Dr U. Saikia, Sci- C attended the thesis submission seminar as an external member of the Research Advisory Committee at college of Veterinary Sciences, Assam Agriculture University, Guwahati
23. Dr. R. H. Raina, Scientist-D attended the 5th meeting of the State Board for Wildlife of the Union Territory, Ladakh held on 17th January, 2022 by virtual mode.
24. Dr. Indu Sharma, Scientist-E, Dr. M. E. Hassan, Scientist-E and Dr. P.S. Bhatnagar, Scientist-E attended the training programme on "Record Management-Right to Information" held from 12th to 14th January, 2022 organized by Institute of Secretariat Training and Management ISTM, Department of Personnel & Training (DoPT), New Delhi- 110067.
25. Dr. Jasmine, Scientist- E, Dr. A.S. Kalawate, Scientist-E, Dr. Souvik Sen, Scientist-D and Dr. P.C. Pathania, Scientist-D attended the training programme conducted by IIFM, Bhopal on Natural Resource and Environmental management held on 17th to 21st of this month.

26. Dr.S.Sambath, Scientist-E, Dr. K. Valarmathi, Scientist- E, Dr. D. S. Suman, Scientist- D and Dr U. Saikia, Sci- C attended "General Management Programme" sponsored by Department of Science and Technology, GoI from 17th Jan to 28th Jan 2022 organized by the Administrative Staff College of India, Hyderabad
27. Ms. Debashree Dam, Scientist – B attended the DST sponsored training programme on 20th Foundation Training programme for Scientists and Technologists" from 06th December 2021 to 28th January 2022 organised by Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA), New Delhi.
28. Dr. Sandeep Kushwaha, Assistant Zoologist attended a training programme on "Environmental Issues With Special Reference to The Forests and Sustainability" by Dr. Nitin Kulkarni National conference on "Multidisciplinary Approaches in Science". 03 January 2022 – 05 January 2022. Organized by IQAC & Govt. Arts College Panagar, Jabalpur (M.P.) Department of Science Under MPHEQIP World Bank Project.

LECTURES DELIVERED

1. Dr. C. Sivaperuman, Scientist-E & Officer-in-Charge delivered an invited talk on the "Avian diversity of Andaman and Nicobar Islands", CIARI, Port Blair as a part of celebration of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav on 22nd January 2022.
2. Dr. C. Sivaperuman, Scientist-E & Officer-in-Charge delivered the following lectures in the ongoing training "Bird Identification and Basic Ornithology namely", "Ecosystem services of birds", "An overview of Great Indian Desert", "An overview of Coastal wetlands and its importance", "Classification of birds and diversity", "Avifauna of Andaman and Nicobar Islands", "Bird watching techniques", and "Identification of wetland birds" aspects of Bird identification in the ongoing training of Bird Identification and Basic Ornithology.
3. Dr. Anil Mohapatra, Scientist-E, delivered a talk on "Marine Biodiversity and conservation" in the Capacity building training programme for teachers in-charge of eco-club of Ganjam district on 19th and 21st January, 2022.
4. Dr. Anil Mohapatra, Scientist-E have presented online on the "Taxonomy of Eel fishes" online presentation in the winter school on "Recent development in taxonomic

techniques of marine fishes for conservation and sustainable fisheries management” organized by ICAR, CMFRI, on 13.01.2022

5. Dr. Ch. Satyanarayana, Scientist-C delivered a lecture, ‘Status of Coral reefs, the paradises underwater - their conservation and Ecological Restoration’ on 04.01.22 at the Refresher Course in Life Sciences (Inter/ Multi-disciplinary) organized by UGC-Human Resource Development Centre, Bharathiar University.
6. Dr. A.S. Kalawate, Scientist-E delivered one invited guest talk on “Scopes and opportunities in Entomology” organized by Modern College of Arts, Science and Commerce, Ganeshkhind, Pune sponsored by DBT, Government of India on 15th January, 2022.
7. Dr. S.S. Talmale, Scientist-B delivered an invited guest lecture cum demonstration on “Rodent Processing, Transport and

Identification” in centralized training programme for Public Health Specialists and Paramedical personnel of Armed Forces from the states of Sikkim & Arunachal Pradesh organized by Department of Community Medicine, Armed Forces Medical College, Pune from 13th to 15th January 2022.

8. Dr. M.J. Palot, Scientist-B delivered a talk on ‘Scheduled Animals of Lakshadweep Islands’ for the staffs and researchers of Department of Environment & Forest, Atal Paryavaran Bhavan, Kavaratti on 10th January 2022. ; delivered a talk on ‘Importance of Mangrove ecosystem’ to the students of Senior Higher Secondary School, Minicoy, Lakshadweep Islands organized by Department of Environment & Forests, Minicoy, U.T. of Lakshadweep on 14th January 2022.



AWARD

Dr. Dhriti Banerjee, Director, ZSI has been awarded the **National Amazing Godavari Memorial Award 2022 (NAGMA)** by ESW Society in the field of 'Excellence in Education and Science'

SUPERANNUATION

1. Dr. P.M. Sureshan, Scientist-E and Officer-in-Charge of Western Regional Centre, Zoological Survey of India, Kozhikode, Kerala superannuated on 31st January 2022 after rendering 33 years service to the organization.
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2. Dr. S.S. Mishra, Scientist-D, Estuarine Biology Regional Centre, Zoological Survey of India, Gopalpur-on-Sea, Odisha superannuated on 31st January 2022 after rendering 33 years service to the organization.
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3. Mr. Siddarth Mandal, Motor Driver Gr.1, Zoological /Survey of India, Headquarters, Kolkata superannuated after rendering 34 years service to the department.
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**73RD REPUBLIC DAY
CELEBRATION AT ZSI
HEADQUARTERS**

DIRECTORS SPEECH

Greetings to all of you on the event of the 73rd Republic Day of the world's largest and most vibrant democracy and as family members of one of India's oldest institutions.

Today we celebrate the national festival of the Republic Day with enthusiasm and express our respect for the National flag, and our faith in the Constitution.

This day has come to mean a lot to all Indians living within the country and abroad. Seventy-one years ago, on this very day, we the people of India adopted, enacted and gave to ourselves a unique Constitution. For all of us, then, this is the day to also pause and ponder over the core values that the Constitution propounds. These values – Justice, Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity – outlined in the Preamble of our Constitution are sacred to all of us. Its abiding adherence is meant not only for those who are mandated to govern but for the people at large. It is not without reason that the wise men and women who framed the Constitution chose to place these four terms at the very beginning of the Constitution to build the foundation on which the edifice of our democracy rests. In fact! These were the values that guided our freedom struggle. A galaxy of great leaders and thinkers like Bal Gangadhar 'Tilak', Lala Lajpat Rai, Mahatma Gandhi and Subhas Chandra Bose inspired our freedom struggle. They had diverse dreams of a magnificent future of the motherland, but common to their Greetings to all of you on the eve of the 72nd

Republic Day of the world's largest and most vibrant democracy. Aspirations were these values: Justice, Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity.

I would like that we go further back into history and inquire why precisely these values guided our nation-builders.

And the answer is obvious: This land and its inhabitants have cherished these ideals from the time immemorial.

Justice, Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity are perennial principles of our philosophy. They come to us from the dawn of this civilisation through an unbroken chain. It is, of course, the task of every generation to seek out the meaning of these values for its times. As the freedom fighters did in their day, so should we in our time. These key principles should light our path to development.

It is with great pride that I say that despite adversities, numerous challenges and the Covid Pandemic our team of hardworking scientists, scientific officers, scientific staff and administrative staff has enabled us to complete 91 faunistic surveys, prepared 70,000 RFD; data published 11 books and 426 research articles; discover 125 species and 105 new records; uploaded and generated 928 DNA barcodes; identified 126 wildlife confiscated materials and provided 1402 identification and advisory services and conducted outreach activities through 15 webinars with 10,000 participants. This is not small feat. We have successfully inaugurated the National Faunal Repository for Island Faunal Diversity at ANRC, by Honourable Minister for Home Affairs Shri Amit Shah on 16th of Oct, 2021 at Port Blair and have celebrated the "Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav" through a variety of programmes.

Our scientists have strengthened our national endeavours In Exploration, Documentation & Conservation of Biodiversity and thus all our scientists, scientific staffs, administrative officers and staff, research fellows and contractual staffs working in the scientific divisions and administrative divisions they deserve a special appreciation; a grateful ZSI greets them all on this auspicious occasion of Republic Day.

We have succeeded in taking forward our activities in many spheres.

We have conducted RAMC meetings for 2021, Half Yearly Meeting 2021-22 and Monthly Consultative meetings for HQ and all regional centres successfully. In the past six months even in time of Delta and Omicron variants of corona we have been able to take forward our research programme, replied to several parliamentary questions and successfully attempted DGQI questionnaire as required by NITI Aayog and Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.

Adversity often plays the role of a great teacher. It makes us stronger and more confident. With that confidence ZSI has taken great strides in several sectors and

we have in spite of all odds been able to set our expenditure statement to 88% in the quarter of the year.

ZSI has emerged as a most favoured organisation for foreign collaboration and funding in the recent past. We have reached a new milestone by signing a MoU with Natural History Museum, London on 24th September 2021 for a bilateral cooperation for taxonomic studies. We have also successfully bid for a project on aquatic biodiversity of North East India and have received funding from German Govt through GIZ.

Our team of ENVIS is a very proud team which has been working relentlessly as well as for advertising in these activities of ZSI as well as our team of E-News they are also working relentlessly for advertising in these achievements and activities of ZSI. Our team of extremely enthusiastic scientists have participated in assessment of living root bridges of the state of Meghalaya and will be contributing to the major criteria 9 and 10 in order for LRB to be declared as UNESCO world heritage site. This is first for us. I believe that the encouragement received from Meghalaya Govt, MoEFCC and the wide publicity that our scientists have received from national and international media have unleashed an entrepreneurial spirit to help them to come up with innovative ideas and attain impossible heights.

Dear ZSI, you have been able to convert a crisis into opportunity even in a time of adversity in the past year. In a major expansionist move we have been able to freshly appoint 42 group C employees in the past 6 months and have given financial up gradation under MACP to 14 employees belonging to group C and group B; confirmed 77 employees in their respective grade through confirmation DPC, granted financial upgradation under FCS to two scientists, conducted office council meeting and granted benefits of CGEGIS and have appointed a new vigilance officer.

It gives me extreme pleasure and confidence to see that our activities have regained its dynamism.

In this occasion I also want to convey my condolences to the bereaved families of scientists and staffs who have passed away in the last few months. Some of them had succumbed to covid and some had fallen sick. We will remember all of them with sadness on their departure and with respect to their contribution to ZSI. We will keep their memories in deep in our hearts with care and concern and a feeling of fraternity which has kept us together for a century.

I want to thank my fellow scientists and scientific staffs of HQ and regional centres, my administrative officers and staffs of the HQ and regional centres, the Technical section, the Establishment section, the Bill & Budget and Cash & Accounts section, the Store & Stationery section and the General section, the Publication Division, Photography section and Library for taking forward our activities in all spheres.

Today ZSI is moving forward and taking its rightful place in the world. Over past months our arc of influence has been expanding. Today we have the youngest ZSI which I have seen in my 25 years of service. The manner in which ZSI got overwhelming support in form of funding from the international organisations like World Bank, GIZ, JAICA, and ICZMP as well as by the MoEFCC is indicative of our high performances in the national and international sectors. The quality of our engagement with scientists has enhanced manifold. ZSI with its vibrant scientific activity has rightfully earned its respect as a responsible and trustworthy institution.

We would do well to keep reminding ourselves of our Constitutional mantras. In line with the aspiration to shape a new India in this year 2022 when free India turns 75. This will be a significant milestone in the journey of the nation as we in ZSI are determined to achieve our major course of exploration, documentation, DNA barcoding, wildlife forensics, geospatial of modelling, digitalization and of course discovering new species, which has always been our forte.

In our collective path ahead, Fraternity is our moral compass. Let us all continue on the path of 'constitutional morality' which means supremacy of the values enshrined in the Constitution.

As I stand here today on the 125th Birth anniversary of my only Hero Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. He was the one who had removed the Karchi and the Kadhari from a woman and handed her the rifle and the gun. At a time when no Indian man or woman could ever dreamt of it possible. He so happens to be my only Hero and in his words, "WE CAN DO IT, WE WILL DO IT."

Amra choto bela theke jani "Doshe mili kaj, hari jiti nahi laj" that translate today as "Sabka Sath, Sabka Prayas, Sabka Vikas".

Jai Hind!