

ZSI E-News

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Cover: *Papilio demoleus*
Linnaeus, 1758 –
Lime Swallowtail
Courtesy: FBRC,
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Edited by
Dr. Dhriti Banerjee
Dr. C.
Raghunathan
Dr. S. Sheela
Dr. Tamal Mondal

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Director’s Desk



Greetings to ZSI E-News readers!

The Zoological Survey of India represents the scientific and capacity-building activities, events, new discoveries, records, and achievements of its headquarters and the Regional Centres through the monthly publication: E-News to keep the readers updated. I am delighted to bring out the volume of August 2023 .

It is with great pleasure and enthusiasm that Zoological Survey of India has welcomed Ms. Leena Nandan, Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Gol, on 10th August 2023 wherein a meeting was organized and officers of Head quarter and regional stations interacted with the Secretary on various research activities of ZSI. It is a matter of pride that Zoological Survey of India became one of the significant stakeholders for the biodiversity studies for Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA), Mumbai in connection with the development of Vadhavan Port, Palghar, Maharashtra, and also for Goa State Biodiversity Board. During the month three species of arthropods described as new to science and three species were recorded for the first time from India, in addition to the identification of 1605 species from various faunal groups. One book, 28 papers in SCI journals, NAAS-rated journals, one article, six book chapters, and one abstract were published during this month. Headquarters, and all the regional centres organized the “Har Ghar Tiranga” programme and distributed the Indian National Flag to the officers and all the staff as well as among the community people of the nearby areas across the country. 77th Independence Day was celebrated with full spirit in Head Quarter and all regional centres. I appreciate all the Officers and Staff of ZSI for their significant contribution during August 2023.

Jai Hind

Dr. Dhriti Banerjee
Director
7th September 2023
Kolkata

HEADQUARTERS, KOLKATA



77th Independence Day celebration at ZSI, Head Quarters, Kolkata.

Surveys were conducted to Rajkot, Gujarat under the Biodiversity assessment study programme for 4-lane greenfield highways and to Konkan and Malabar Coasts of India to explore the corals and coral associated faunal communities. 528 species of faunal communities including Apterygota, Arachnida, Formicidae, Chalcidae, Crustacea, Diptera, Dermaptera, Orthoptera Odonata, Lepidoptera, Porifera, Cnidaria, Annelida, Echnidermata, Nemathelminthes, Platyhelminthes, Mollusca and Aves and 10 species from Bharti Huda site were identified during the month. One new species of Arachnida i.e. *Hamadruas keralensis* Sen & Sudhin, 2022 was described new to science. Two species of Apterygota such as *Sminthurinus bimaculatus* Axelson, 1902 and *Dicranocentrus nepalensis* Mari Mutt & Bhattacharjee, 1980, and one species of Arachnida *Hamadruas hieroglyphica* (Thorell, 1887) were reported as new distributional record to Indian fauna. A total of 18 species of Lepidoptera, Nemathelminthes and Platyhelminthes were augmented to National Zoological Collections. Identification and advisory services were rendered to Banda University of Agriculture and Technology, Banda, U. P, Kazi Nazrul University, Paschim Bardhaman, Mahishadal Raj College, Purba Medinipur, Uttar Banga Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, Cooch Behar, University of Agricultural & Horticulture, Shivamogga, Karnataka, Officer in Charge, SRRICAR-CSWRI, Mannavanur, Kodaikanal, Tamil Nadu and Dept. of Agricultural Entomology, UBKV, Coach Bihar. National Flag was distributed to all the scientists and the staffs of headquarter as a part of “Har Ghar Tiranga” and 77th Independence Day was celebrated at Headquarter by hoisting the national flag of the country.





Celebration of 77th Independence Day at NERC

NORTH EASTERN REGIONAL CENTRE, SHILLONG, MEGHALAYA

A local survey was conducted to Umrynjah, Ri-Bhoi district. A total of 64 species including Hemiptera, Aranea, Orthoptera, Odonata, Dermaptera, Pisces, Amphibia, Reptilia, and Mammalia were identified during the month. Identification and advisory services were rendered to Meghalaya Biodiversity Board, Wildlife, Jowai, Govt. of Meghalaya, Wildlife Trust of India and Dera Natung Govt. College, Itanagar. 77th Independence Day was celebrated at the centre.



Glimpses of “Hands on training on lower vertebrate taxonomy” organized at NESFAS 28th Aug to 1st Sept, 2023.

WESTERN REGIONAL CENTRE, PUNE, MAHARASHTRA

One survey was conducted to Kali Tiger Reserve, Karnataka. A total of 89 species including Arachnida, Crustacea, Mollusca, Blattodea, Coleoptera, Diptera, Hemiptera, Hymenoptera, Lepidoptera, Odonata, and Pisces were identified during the month. Identification and advisory services were rendered to Ramkrishna More College, Pune and Ahmednagar College, Maharashtra. An inauguration programme of ‘Har Ghar Tiranga’ was organized on 10th August 2023. 77th Independence Day was celebrated in the centre.



Boulenger's Indian Gecko, *Cyrtodactylus albofasciatus* (Boulenger, 1885) (Gekkonidae)



Landscape of Kali Tiger Reserve



**CENTRAL
ZONE
REGIONAL
CENTRE,
JABALPUR,
MADHYA
PRADESH**

A total of 92 species of faunal communities including Orthoptera, Lepidoptera, Odonata, Hemiptera, Mollusca, Pisces, and Amphibia were identified during the month. One species of Hemiptera (*Dabessus indicus* sp. nov. Kushwaha S, Jahan S. 2023) was described new to science. Identification and advisory services rendered to JNKVV, Jabalpur.



Hottentotta jabalpurensis Kovařík, 2007 spotted using UV light at Kuno National Park.

**DESERT
REGIONAL
CENTRE,
JODHPUR,
RAJASTHAN**

A survey was conducted to Mt. Abu Wildlife Sanctuary and Todgarh-Raoli Wildlife Sanctuary, Rajasthan. A total of 59 species including Insecta, Mollusca, Arachnida, and Pisces were identified during the month. 77th Independence Day was celebrated and Har



Har Ghar Tiranga Celebration at DRC, Jodhpur (13-15th August, 2023)

Ghar Tiranga Campaign was organized under the aegis of Azadi ka Amrit Mahoutsav (AKAM) from 13th to 15th August, 2023 at the center. All the officials participated in the Cleanliness Campaign conducted at the office premises near the pond under the activities of Swachha Camp. 2.0 on 25th August, 2023.



Independence Day celebration at DRC, Jodhpur

NORTHERN REGIONAL CENTRE, DEHRADUN, UTTARAKHAND

A total of 78 species including Protozoa, Phthiraptera, Orthoptera, Lepidoptera, Hymenoptera, Pisces, Amphibia, and Reptilia were identified during the month. The Officer-in-Charge and staff organized and participated in Mission LiFE Programme ‘Save Water, Save Electricity’ awareness rally and Swachhta Cleanliness Drive Programme in Dehradun. The Officer-in-Charge distributed National Flag to common Public and to office staff as an initiative of “Har Ghar Tiranga”.



Rose-ringed Parakeet, *Psittacula krameri* (Scopoli, 1769)



MoEFCC Mission LiFE and Swachhata Abhiyan Awareness Rally at Kaulagarh Road, Dehradun



Mission LiFE activities with Trainees of Uttarakhand Forest Training Academy, Haldwani



Indotestudo travancorica (Boulenger, 1907)



Python molurus (Linnaeus, 1758)



Field_Survey at Satyamangalam Tiger Reserve

SOUTHERN REGIONAL CENTRE, CHENNAI, TAMIL NADU

Field surveys were conducted to Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve and Status Survey of Forest cane turtle (*Vijayachelys sylvatica*) and Travancore tortoise (*Indotestudo travancorica*) in Kerala part of the Western Ghats. A total of 108 species including Blattodea, Hemiptera, Lepidoptera, Odonata, Psocoptera, and Mollusca were identified during the month. Post graduate students of Dept. of Zoology, Loyola College, Chennai visited the centre on 28th August, 2023.

GANGETIC PLAINS REGIONAL CENTRE, PATNA, BIHAR

A total of 50 species of faunal communities including Insecta, Mollusca, and Pisces were identified during the month. Identification and Advisory services was rendered to Patna University, Patna. 77th Independence Day was celebrated in the centre.



Dr Gopal Sharma, Scientist-E receiving the memento from the Director Ecology, Dept of Environment Forest and Climate Change, Govt. of Bihar.



Demonstration was given on live Dolphin Rescue to the volunteers of Patna on the River Ganga.

HIGH ALTITUDE REGIONAL CENTRE, SOLAN, HIMACHAL PRADESH

A total of 53 species including Lepidoptera, Trichoptera, Neuroptera, and Pisces were identified during the month. Identification and advisory services were rendered to Punjabi University, Punjab, Sir Syed College, Kerala, Himachal Pradesh University, Himachal Pradesh. A rally was organized on 14th August 2023 in and around Raboun. National flags were distributed to the local people as part of 'Har Ghar Tiranga' programme. On the eve of the Independence Day, National flags and Tri-colour mufflers were distributed among the staffs of the centre. 77th Independence Day was celebrated at the centre.



Rally organised in Solan on the eve of Independence day



Flag Hoisting Ceremony on 15.08.2023 at ZSI, Solan



Har Ghar Tiranga celebrated at ZSI, Solan

MARINE BIOLOGY REGIONAL CENTRE, CHENNAI, TAMIL NADU

Faunal surveys were organized under the projects “Integrative Taxonomy, Distribution and Population Status of Batoids of India” and “Molecular Taxonomy, Distribution, and Species Diversity of fishes of the order Gobiiformes from Indian waters”. A total of 46 species of faunal communities including Porifera, Foraminifera, Mollusca, and Pisces were identified during the month. Identification services were rendered to wildlife crime-related cases. A one-day workshop on Marine Faunal Diversity of India was organised for the Masters in Zoology students from Loyola College, Chennai.



Healthy *Acropora* colonies in Agatti lagoon, Lakshadweep.



Students of Loyola College at MBRC, Chennai

ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR REGIONAL CENTRE, PORT BLAIR

Surveys were conducted to North & Middle Andaman group of Islands and to South Andaman. A total of 129 species of faunal communities including Arachnida, Lepidoptera, Coleoptera, Hemiptera, Odonata, Mollusca, and Pisces were identified during the month. A Seminar on Andaman and Nicobar Islands: Emerging Global Tourist Destination on 19th August 2023 in collaboration with Prasara Bharati, Akasvani, Port Blair as a part of celebration of India's G20 Presidency. Hindi Workshop on 18th August 2023. Topic: Usage of Hindi (Official Language) in day-to-day official work. 77th Independence Day was celebrated in the centre.



Andaman cat Snake *Boiga andamanensis* Wall 1909



Actinodendron arboreum Quoy Gaimard 1833



Hindi Workshop



Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus* Linnaeus 1758

SUNDERBAN REGIONAL CENTRE, CANNING, WEST BENGAL

A total of 119 species of faunal communities including Mollusca, Crustacea, Echinodermata, and Pisces were identified during the month. Office premises were cleaned under the Swachhta Abhiyan program and 'Har Ghar Tiranga' was celebrated and National flags were distributed to the staffs and public on 11th August 2023. 77th Independence Day was celebrated with 'Selfie zone' displayed in front of ZSI-SbRC, Canning under Mission LiFE program. Mission LiFE presentation entitled "Diversity of Crab from Sunderban Biosphere Area" was held on 10th August 2023.



Selfie Zone in SbRC, Canning



Celebration of 77th Independence Day



Eumyias thalassinus
(Swainson, 1838)



Orsotriaena medus
(Fabricius, 1775) - Medus Brown

FRESHWATER BIOLOGY REGIONAL CENTRE, HYDERABAD, TELANGANA

A faunistic survey was conducted to three Ramsar wetlands of Madhya Pradesh. A total of 126 species including Coleoptera, Hemiptera, Rotifer, Crustacea, Mollusca, Pisces, and Amphibia were identified during the month. A total of 15 sequences have been submitted to NCBI. Independence Day was celebrated at the centre.



Celebration of Independence Day at FBRC, Hyderabad

WESTERN GHAT REGIONAL CENTRE, KOZHIKODE, KERALA

Faunal surveys were conducted to Parambikulam Tiger Reserve, Kerala and Kakkavayal, Kozhikode. A total of 157 species including Testate amoebae, Coleoptera Hemiptera, Hymenoptera, Arachnida, Decapoda, Mantodea, Mollusca, and Pisces were identified during the month. One species of Hymenoptera [The square-headed wasp *Vechtia rugosa* (Smith, 1858) Crabronidae] is reported for the first time from India from Mookambika Wildlife Sanctuary, Karnataka. Identification and Advisory services was rendered to Modern College, Pune. St. Thomas College, Thrissur.



Celebration of Onam



Celebration of 77th Independence Day

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

One day local survey was conducted to Bahuda estuary. A total of 223 species of different faunal groups were identified during the month. Seventeen DNA barcode belonging to 8 species were uploaded in the NCBI data base. Har Ghar Tiranga programme was conducted by distributing the National Flags to all the staff members of the Centre and 77th Independence Day was celebrated in the centre.



Har Ghar Tiranga campaign

ARUNACHAL PRADESH REGIONAL CENTRE, ITANAGAR

One day local survey was conducted to Lenya Village, Lower Chimpu of Itanagar WLS. A total of 82 species of faunal communities including Lepidoptera, Orthoptera, Hemiptera, Pisces, Amphibia, and Reptilia were identified during the month. Identification and Advisory services were rendered to Geography Department of Rajiv Gandhi University, State Biodiversity board and Nagaland University. All the scientific staff of the centre attended the 47th BSI Foundation Day on 8th August 2023 at Botanical Survey of India, APRC, Itanagar. All the staff of APRC with their families & students of Hornbill Residential School, Itanagar, celebrated the 77th Independence Day on 15th August 2023 at the office.



Celebration of Independence Day with staffs of ZSI, APRC & Students of Hornbill Residential School, Itanagar.



Field trip to Hollongi during the 3-days Training workshop on Animal Taxonomy



Prof. Kuldeep Krishan Sharma, VC of Himalayan University, Arunachal Pradesh along with HoD, Zoology Department, Dr. Firoz Ahmad visited the Centre on 22nd August, 2023.

MARINE
AQUARIUM
AND
REGIONAL
CENTRE,
DIGHA, WEST
BENGAL

A survey was conducted to Goa coast and a local survey was conducted to Digha & Shankarpur. A total of 109 species including Annelida, Nematoda, Mollusca, Pisces, and Reptilia were identified during the month. A total of 10 samples of polychaete isolated for gDNA and PCR products for fish have been amplified. Identification and advisory service was rendered to Department of Zoology, Pachaiyappa's College, Chennai. Mr. Justice B. Amit Sthalekar, Hon'ble Judicial Member, National Green Tribunal, Kolkata, 39 forest trainee guards from Kharagpur Division, West Bengal Forest Department, Students and faculty from The Institute for Academic Excellence Narayangarh, Kharagpur, School students and faculty from Pabitra Research Centre, Ramnagar and Graduation students along with faculty members of Paramedical College, Durgapur visited the centre during the month. As a part of the Swatchhta Campaign as well as Mission LiFE, a campus cleaning campaign was conducted at the centre. 77th Independence Day was celebrated at the centre.



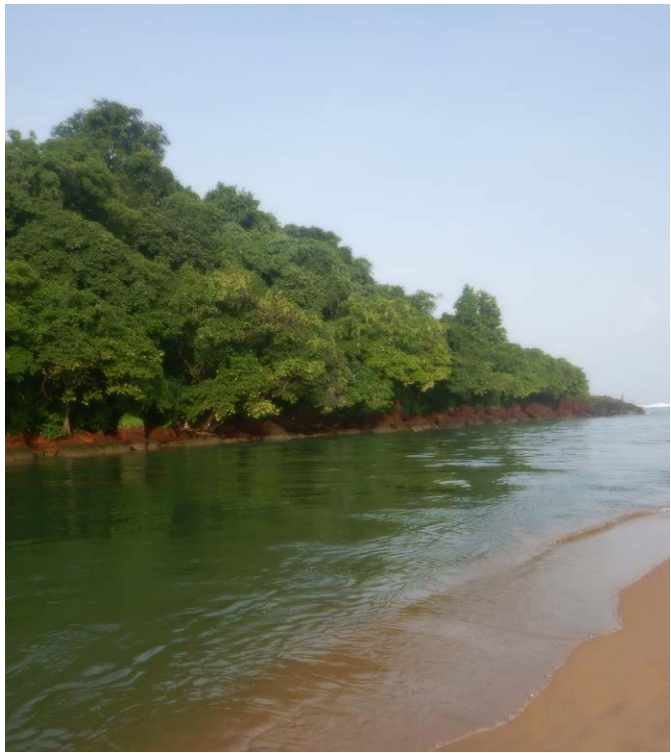
Celebration of 77th Independence Day



One day training organised for 39 forest trainee guards from Kharagpur Division, West Bengal Forest Department on August 12, 2023.



A group of Students and faculty from The Institute for Academic Excellence Narayangarh, Kharagpur visited MARC, Digha during their Educational tour on 18.08.2023.



Landscape of Goa coast captured during survey to Goa coast

NEW DISCOVERIES AND NEW RECORDS

NEW RECORD



Vechtia rugosa (Smith, 1858) Crabronidae

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

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PAPERS

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ARTICLE

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BOOK CHAPTERS

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ABSTRACT

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MEETINGS ATTENDED

1. Dr. Dhriti Banerjee, Director, Zoological Survey of India, attended the 4th meeting of High Powered Committee under the chairpersonship of Secretary (MoEFCC) for the project of Great Nicobar Island on 1st August 2023 at MoEF&CC, New Delhi; with the officers of ZSI under the chairmanship of JS(NP) to discuss the issues relating to expenditure and recruitment in ZSI on 7th August 2023; a virtual meeting on Review of Expenditure on 9th August 2023 hosted by MoEFCC, New Delhi; with Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA), Mumbai regarding a field work and logistics arrangement for the proposed project work with reference to development of Vadhavan Port, Palghar, Maharashtra on 11th August 2023; meeting with Chief Engineer, CPWD regarding SRC, Chennai building on 12th and 13th August 2023 in SRC, ZSI, Chennai; meeting with Goa State Biodiversity Board involving all the experts from the state and stakeholders on 17th August 2023; meeting of DPC to consider the promotion to the post of Administrative Officer on 24th August 2023 at UPSC, New Delhi, meeting related to institutional collaboration between Director, ICAR-NBFG and Scientists of ZSI on 30th August 2023 and meeting to discuss the proposals submitted by various Ministries/ Department/ States/ UTs/ Divisions for

hosting side events at the India Pavilion at COP 28 on 31st August 2023, hosted by IT Division MoEFCC; also addressed the teachers from Kendriya Vidyalaya In-service training for PGT Biology on 04th August 2023; addressed virtually a “Capacity Building Workshop on ‘General Administration’ organised by ZSI, WRC, Pune on 4th August 2023; organised the visit of Ms. Leena Nandan, Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Gol on 10th August 2023; Har Ghar Tiranga campaign at ZSI, Hqs and the distribution of National Flag among all the ZSI Scientist, Staff & Research Scholar on 9th August 2023 and celebrated 77th Independence Day. She was invited as a Chief Guest in a “National Webinar on Biodiversity and its Conservation” organised by Department of Zoology & Botany, Govt. Autonomous P.G. College, Satna (MP) on 21st August 2023; visited Daman for attending Stakeholders meeting on the biodiversity study at burrow pit area for the Vadhavan Port Project on 26th August 2023.

2. Dr. C. Raghunathan, Scientist – F, ZSI, HQs, attended the High Power Committee meeting in the matter of Hon’ble NGT Appeals No.29-32 of 2022 for the project of Great Nicobar Island chaired by Secretary, MoEFCC at New Delhi on 1st August 2023; the meeting with Chief Engineer, CCU to discuss the pending capital works for approval at MoEFCC, New Delhi on 2nd August 2023; the meeting chaired by Secretary, MoEFCC on 10th August 2023 at ZSI, Kolkata on the activities of ZSI; the meeting with the Deputy Chairman, Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority, Navi Mumbai on 11th August 2023 at Navi Mumbai to discuss about the Biodiversity Study in the Burrow Pit region for the Vadhavan Port Project Limited entrusted to ZSI; the Stakeholder consultation meeting for biodiversity study in burrow pit area for Vadhavan Port Project Limited held at Daman on 26th August.2023 and delivered a lecture on Blue Economy in India, the meeting with the Deputy Inspector General

of Indian Coast Guard, Air Station, Daman on 28th August 2023 to explore the possibility to conduct marine mammal survey in the burrow pit area in the Indian EEZ of Arabian Sea by availing Indian Coast Guard aircraft and the meeting with the Director, ICAR-National Bureau of Fish Genetic Resources, Lucknow at ZSI Headquarters on 30th August 2023 to explore the areas for collaboration with ZSI and ICAR – NBFGR. He also attended and submitted the reply to Rajya Sabha Question No. S979 on Wild Animals to the Ministry on 3rd August 2023; the reply to Rajya Sabha starred/unstarred question No. 3863 on Environmental Impact to the Ministry on 7th August 2023; the reply to Lok Sabha unstarred Question Diary No. 8986 on Damage due to forest fire to the Ministry on 7th August 2023; the reply to provisionally admitted Lok Sabha Question No. 251 on Excessive rain to the Ministry on 7th August 2023; submitted the comments for the IPBES – Summary for policymakers of the thematic assessment of invasive alien species and their control, to MoEFCC on 15th August 2023. He prepared the sampling strategies for Biodiversity study for the proposed Burrow Pit region in Arabian Sea with reference to development of Vadhavan Port, Palghar, Maharashtra and sent to all PIs on 4th August 2023. He submitted comments for Negotiations under Environment Chapter Indo-Pacific Economic Framework(IPEF) Trade Pillar Article X.25: Conservation of Marine Species and Article X.28: Invasive Alien Species has been submitted to the MoEFCC on 11th August 2023; ZSI comments on the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Targets (KM-GBF) - Inputs/ Recommendations of the members of the Working Group on the Targets for Target 3 (Protected Areas and OECMS) and Target 21 (Participation in Governance of Biodiversity) submitted to NBA on 22nd August 2023 and the comments of ZSI pertaining to permission for collection of corals in Lakshadweep required by Kerala University of Fisheries and Ocean Studies has been

submitted to the Deputy Inspector General of Forests (WL), MoEFCC on 22.08.2023.

3. Dr. G. Maheswaran, Scientist – F, ZSI, HQs, attended an online meeting organized by the MoEFCC on Joint Working Group between India and Bangladesh on Sundarbans and the meeting was chaired by Mr. Bikas Ranjan, ADG (WL) on 9th August 2023. Accordingly as directed by the Chairman a new agenda point on “Joint monitoring of migratory waterbirds by India and Bangladesh in Sundarbans” has been submitted to the Ministry by the ZSI, meeting at Bani Prasad Hall of ZSI HQ office wherein the Ms. Leena Nandan, IAS Secretary, MoEFCC delivered by address after watching ZSI presentation. He participated in the State of India’s Birds-2 (SoB-2) report release function at India International Centre, New Delhi being organized by the NCF.
4. Debashree Dam, Scientist-B, ZSI, HQs, attended an online meeting on Mission LiFE chaired by Tanmoy Kumar, Addl. Secretary and Nameeta Prasad, JS, MoEFCC on 19th August 2023; meeting on 11th August 2023 at Navi Mumbai between Dr. Dhriti Banerjee, Director, ZSI and Vice Chairman Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA), Navi Mumbai in connection with proposed Vadhavan Port participated in and also conducted the Stakeholder consultation meeting on Biodiversity study in Burrowpit area for Vadhavan Port Project Ltd., chaired by Dr. Dhriti Banerjee, Director, ZSI at Daman on 26th August 2023, and on 28th August 2023 with Shri Bajpai, DIG and Commanding Officer of the Coast Guard Air Station, Daman and Dr. Dhriti Banerjee, Director, ZSI regarding marine survey with regard to Biodiversity study in Burrowpit area for Vadhavan Port Project Ltd. and she also participated in an interactive program titled “The Unstoppable” on the occasion of completion of 2 years of Dr Dhriti Banerjee as Director, ZSI at ZSI Kolkata on 7th August 2023.

5. Dr. Tamal Mondal, Scientist-D, ZSI, HQs, attended a virtual meeting under the programme ‘Biodiversity study for the proposed Burrow Pit Region in Arabian Sea with reference to development of Vadhavan Port, Palghar, Maharashtra’ on 2nd August 2023; an in-house meeting on hybrid mode on the revision of the Indian Wildlife (Protection) Amended Act, 2022 on 22nd August 2023 at ZSI/HQs; a meeting to consider a trans-boundary regional Technical Cooperation project in India and Bangladesh for ‘Strengthening regional cooperation and financing for sustainable management of the Sundarbans and coastal ecosystem restoration in the Bay of Bengal (SUNDAR-BAY)’ under Indo-German consultations on development cooperation with Indo-German Biodiversity Programme, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH on 28th August 2023; a consultation meeting for developing EOI with the IUCN- India on 29th August 2023 and a consultation meeting with Dr. Uttam Kumar Sarkar, Director, ICAR-NBFGR to develop institutional MoU at ZSI Kolkata on 30th August 2023.
6. Dr. Souvik Sen, Scientist-D, ZSI, HQs, attended a meeting for assessment of one CSIR Research Fellow on 16th August 2023; meeting with the ‘Project Appraisal Mission Team’ of GIZ for transboundary regional Technical Cooperation project in India and Bangladesh for ‘Strengthening regional cooperation and financing for sustainable management of the Sundarbans and coastal ecosystem restoration in the Bay of Bengal (SUNDAR-BAY)’ on 28th August 2023 at ZSI, Kolkata and a meeting with Dr. Uttam Kumar Sarkar, Director, ICAR-NBFGR on 30th August 2023 at ZSI, Kolkata to discuss institutional collaboration between ICAR-NBFGR and ZSI.
7. Dr.D. S. Chand, Scientist – E, ZSI, HQs. acted as a Member in the Interview Committee for the recruitment of Information Officer and Data Entry Operator for EIACP Centre, ZSI, Kolkata on 25th August 2023.

8. Dr. S. S. Jadhav, Scientist-E and Dr M. Karuthapandi, Scientist-D, ZSI/FBRC, Hyderabad, attended one day meeting on “Collaborative Strategies for Managing Aquatic Biological Invasions: A Consultative Meeting” at LaCONES, CSIR-CCMB, Hyderabad on 5th August 2023.
9. Dr S.D. Gurumayum, Scientist – E, ZSI/APRC, Itanagar, attended state research advisory committee under the Chairmanship of PCCF(WL &BD) cum cwcl, Government of Arunachal Pradesh on 3rd august 2023 and gave input and suggestion regarding declaration of Kaiser-i-Hind as state butterfly of Arunachal Pradesh online on 4th August 2023 under the Chairmanship of PCCF(WL &BD) cum cwcl, Government of Arunachal Pradesh, and also attended meeting on declaration of Kaisher-i-hind as state butterfly of Arunachal Pradesh on 7th August 2023 held at Office of the PCCF, Arunachal Pradesh.
10. Dr. J. S. Yogesh Kumar Scientist – E, ZSI/SbRC, Canning, participated on 2nd preparatory virtual meeting on 9th August 2023 for the Joint Working Group on Sundarbans, under the chairmanship of Shri Bivash Ranjan, Additional Director General of Forest, Delhi, on discussion meeting with Ms. Leena Nandan, Secretary, MoEFCC on 10th August 2023, in the meeting on creation of LiFE Selfie Points in each subordinate offices chaired by Shri Tanmay Kumar Additional Secretary, MoEFCC on 17th August 2023, on Project Appraisal Mission for transboundary regional Project in Sundarbans. The meeting was organized by the Director, ZSI with Indo-German Biodiversity Programme co-coordinators, International Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, New Delhi on 28th August 2023 in ZSI, H.Q. Kolkata. He also participated in a discussion on the Greenfield Vadhvan Port Project on 2nd & 4th August 2023 virtually which was organized by WRC, Pune.
11. Dr. Gaurav Sharma, Scientist-E, ZSI/NRC, Dehradun, participated in “19th Uttarakhand

State Wildlife Board Meeting” chaired by Hon’ble Chief Minister of Uttarakhand Shri Puskar Singh Dhami and organized by Uttarakhand Forest Department, Dehradun on 4th August, 2023; in the meeting of “Convocation-2023 of 35th State Forest Service Induction Course 2021-23” organized by Central Academy for State Forest Service Dehradun on 1st August, 2023; in the meeting “Convocation-2023 of Indian Forest Service Course 2021-23” organized by Indira Gandhi National Forest Academy, Dehradun on 10th August, 2023. He was invited as External Expert Member in the “Research Advisory Committee Meeting of Forest Protection Division, FRI (DU)” to evaluate the progress of research scholars of FRI (Deemed University) on 29th August, 2023.

12. Dr. S. Balakrishnan, Scientist – E, ZSI/MARC, Digha, attended and participated meeting through hybrid mode convened under the chairpersonship of Ms. Leena Nandan, Secretary, MoEFCC, Govt. of India during her visit to ZSI Kolkata on 10th August, 2023; participated meeting on Creation of LiFE Selfie Points to be chaired by Shri. Tanmay Kumar, Additional Secretary, MoEFCC, Govt. of India on 17th August 2023; meeting of Standing Committee on Government e-Marketplace (SCoGeM) in respect of MoEFCC, New Delhi on 4th August 2023; attended Annual Assessment of Research Scholars of ZSI on 23rd August 2023 through virtual mode organised by ZSI, HQ, Kolkata; invited as Chief Guest for the valediction programme of “District Level Science Seminar - 2023” at Digha Science Centre on 25th August 2023 and attended and participated invited as distinguished guest on the occasion of closing ceremony of Silver Jubilee Celebration at Digha Science Centre on 31st August 2023.
13. Dr. M. E. Hassan, Scientist-E, ZSI/GPRC, Patna, attended Interactive meeting with Director, ZSI and presented the highlights of GPRC, Patna on 7th August 2023.

14. Dr. Gopal Sharma, Scientist E and Dr. M. E. Hassan, Scientist E and Shri Manish Chandra Patel, Assistant Zoologist, ZSI/GPRC, Patna attended meeting of Standing Committee on Government e-Marketplace (SCoGeM) - regularization of procurement made out of GeM, under the Chairmanship of AS&FA, MoEF&CC through video conference on 4th August 2023; on Creation of LiFE Selfie Points to be chaired by Shri Tanmay Kumar, Additional Secretary on 17th August 2023.
15. Dr. Indu Sharma, Scientist- E and Dr. R. Bano Scientist- E, ZSI/DRC, Jodhpur participated in the six monthly meeting on NAKAS on 8th August 2023 at CAZRI.
16. Dr. Indu Sharma, Scientist-E, ZSI/DRC, Jodhpur, participated in the State Board for Wildlife meeting under the chairman of Honorable Chief Minister Sh. Ashok Gehlot, Forest Minister Sh. Hemaram Choudhary, Sh. Arindam Tomar, PCCF and Chief Wildlife Warden on 26th August, 2023 through virtual mode.
17. Dr. C. Sivaperuman, Scientist-E, ZSI/ANRC, Port Blair, attended the First Meeting of the Working Group to contribute and review the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) following the adoption of Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework at National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai on 9th August 2023; Doctoral Committee meeting at Department of Ocean Studies and Marine Biology, Pondicherry University, Port Blair on 21st & 22nd August 2023 to review the ongoing Ph.D. Research works; the review meeting Chaired by the Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India on 10th August 2023 (Online); attended the meeting on issue related to transfer of funds through CAN Hosted by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India on 28th August 2023 (Online); interactive meeting with Deputy Inspector General (DIG), Indian Coast Guard, Daman along with Director, ZSI, Dr.

C. Raghunathan, Additional Director, ZSI in connection with the biodiversity study in the Burrow Pit Area for Vadhavan Port Project Ltd on 28th August 2023; attended interactive meeting with Deputy Inspector General (DIG), Indian Coast Guard, Daman along with Director, ZSI, Dr. C. Raghunathan, Additional Director, ZSI in connection with the biodiversity study in the Burrow Pit Area for Vadhavan Port Project Ltd on 28th August 2023; reception on 15th August 2023 hosted by Lt. Governor, Andaman and Nicobar Islands at Raj Niwas as a part of celebration of Independence Day and Coordinated the Stakeholder Consultation meeting on Biodiversity study in the Burrow Pit Area for Vadhavan Port Project Ltd. on 26th August 2023 at Daman.

18. Dr. K.A. Subramanian, Scientist – E, ZSI/SRC, Chennai, attended a meeting on “Elephant Conclave.” Organized by the Tamil Nadu Forest Department held at Coimbatore from 11th to 12th August 2023 and consultation meeting to identify threatened species of Goa” organised by the Goa State Biodiversity Board, Panjim from 17th to 18th August 2023.
19. Dr. Basudev Tripathy, Scientist-E, Dr. K.P. Dinesh, Scientist- E, Dr. S.S. Talmale, Scientist-C, and Dr. M.J. Palot, Scientist-B of ZSI/WRC, Pune, attended first stakeholder’s consultative meeting from 17th to 18th August 2023 at the Goa Biodiversity Board, Goa regarding the project ‘Status assessment and formulating suitable conservation measures for rare, threatened and endangered fauna of Goa’.
20. Dr. P. S. Bhatnagar, Scientist-E, ZSI/CZRC, Jabalpur, attended and participated 5th Prof. T. N. Ananthakrishnan Memorial lecture on “Environment and Sex in Insects, esp. Lac Insects” & National Conference on “Emerging Trends in Entomological Research in India” Organized by The Prof. T. N. Ananthakrishnan Foundation, Chennai & Entomology Research Institute (ERI), Loyola College, Chennai on 07th August-2023,

meeting at Survey of India office Jabalpur on 17th August 2023 regarding Recruitment board for Motor driver cum Mechanic, court case regarding Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 in Mumbai Virtual meeting attended on visit of Secretary MOEFCC to ZSI, HQ.

21. All the Officers and scientific staff of ZSI/CZRC, Jabalpur, attended and participated online lecture on “Conservation and Management of Aquatic Genetic Resources in changing climatic conditions” by Dr. U.K. Sarkar, Director, ICAR-National Bureau of Fish Genetic Resource, Lucknow, organized by Department of Zoology Chaudhary Mahadeo Prasad College, University of Allahabad, Prayagraj (U.P) on 21st August 2023.
22. Dr. P. Girish Kumar, Scientist-D, ZSI/WGRC, Kozhikode, attended an online meeting of Standing Committee on Government e-Marketplace (SCo GeM) conducted by MoEF&CC, New Delhi on 4th August 2023.
23. Dr. Sreeraj C.R., Scientist-D, ZSI/WGRC, Kozhikode participated as a member of the Council in the 9th ACSE (Asian Council of Science Editors) Annual Meeting on 20th August 2023 through online.

■ TRAININGS ORGANIZED

1. APRC, Itanagar organized a training workshop on Animal Taxonomy in collaboration with DBT-NER Advance Level Institutional Biotech Hub, Chaiduar College, Gohpur, Assam from 21st to 23rd August 2023 in ZSI-APRC, Itanagar; organized one day field demonstration on Collection, Preservation & Identification of various groups for the students of Kendriya Vidhyalaya No. 2 on 17th August, 2023.
2. MARC, Digha organised training for 39 forest trainee guards from Kharagpur Division, West Bengal Forest Department on 12th August 2023; for school students and faculty from Pabitra Research Centre, Ramnagar on 21st August 2023 and a ten days “Hands

on training on identification of marine mollusca” was imparted to Ms. Debajani, Sr. Zoological Assistant, ZSI/EBRC, Gopalpur-on-sea, Odisha from 31st July to 11st August 2023.

3. A 5-day hands on training on Lower Vertebrate Taxonomy was conducted by Zoological Survey of India, Shillong in collaboration with North East Slow Food Agrobiodiversity Society (NESFAS), Shillong at NESFAS campus during 28th August to 1st September 2023.

■ TRAININGS ATTENDED

1. Dr. P. Girish Kumar, Scientist-D, ZSI/WGRC, Kozhikode, attended training on onboarding of Research Fellows of CSIR-HRDG on Fellow AMS portal online on 4th August 2023.

■ LECTURES DELIVERED

1. Dr. S.D. Gurumayum, Scientist – E, ZSI/APRC, Itanagar, delivered lecture on 47th Annual Foundation Day of Botanical Survey of India, Arunachal Pradesh Regional Centre, Itanagar on 8th August 2023, on Inaugural function of 3 days training programme on animal Taxonomy organized by APRC, ZSI in collaboration with DBT-NER Advance Level Institutional Biotech Hub, Chaiduar College, Gohpur, Assam from 21st– 23rd August 2023 in ZSI-APRC, Itanagar,
2. Dr. S.D. Gurumayum, Dr. G. Srinivasan, Smt. Ilona J. Kharkongor, Scientist – E and Dr. Temjenmongla, Scientist – D delivered lectures on various topics in 3 days training programme on animal Taxonomy organized by APRC, ZSI in collaboration with DBT-NER Advance Level Institutional Biotech Hub, Chaiduar College, Gohpur, Assam from 21st– 23rd August, 2023 in ZSI-APRC, Itanagar.
3. Dr C. Venkatraman, Scientist-E and Shri Rajender Kumar, Assistant Zoologist, ZSI/MBRC, Chennai delivered lectures at the training programme “Identification of Marine Wildlife Species” organised by

Advanced Institute for Wildlife Conservation (Research, Training and Education), Vandalur, Chennai.

4. Dr Bineesh K. K., Scientist – E, ZSI/MBRC, Chennai, delivered a talk on ‘Exploring Indian Elasmobranchs & the Significance of their Conservation’ at the seminar organised by WWF, New Delhi, on 24th August 2023.
5. Dr. Gaurav Sharma, Scientist-E, ZSI/NRC, Dehradun delivered lecture on topic entitled “Status of Faunal Diversity and their Conservation in India” to M.Sc. students of Forest Research Institute (Deemed University) on 14th August, 2023, on topic entitled “Protected Schedule Animals of India” for Trainees Frontline Forest Guards, Forest Officials of Haryana Forest Department and Ladakh Forest Department and Faculty of “Haryana Forestry Training Institute, Gurugram, Haryana” on 22nd August, 2023, on topic entitled “Protected Mammals of India” for Trainees (Female) Frontline Forest Guards and Faculty of “Uttarakhand Forest Training Academy, Haldwani (Nainital), Uttarakhand” on 23rd August, 2023, on topic entitled “Protected Mammals of India” for Trainees (Male) Frontline Forest Guards and Faculty of “Uttarakhand Forest Training Academy, Haldwani (Nainital), Uttarakhand” on 25th August, 2023.
6. Dr. Anil Kumar, Scientist-E, ZSI/NRC, Dehradun delivered an invited talk on ‘Avian Diversity in India: Birding Hotspots, Taxonomy, arrangements and species identification’ in the National Webinar on ‘Biodiversity and its Conservation’ jointly organized by Zoological Survey of India, Kolkata, National Academy of Sciences India (Bhopal Chapter) and Govt. Autonomous P.G. College, Satna, Madhya Pradesh, on 21st August 2023.
7. Dr. Gopal Sharma Scientist – E, ZSI/GPRC, Patna, delivered a lecture on “Biodiversity Conservation and Role of Biologist w.r.t. Zoos. in the National Conference of Biologist at Patna Zoo on 7th August 2023; on Rescue

and Release on the occasion of National Dolphin Conservation program organised by Patna Zoo, Department of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Govt. of Bihar on 17th August 2023; on Poaching and Killing of Migratory Birds in the different Protected Areas in Bihar on 20th August 2023 in Patna Zoo; on “Water Conservation” in the office GPRC ZSI Patna among the museum visitors of Bhumi NGO on 27th August 2023 under Mission Life Programme and gave a live demo for preparation of stretcher and demonstration was also given on Live Dolphin rescue stranded in any pool or river at the Bank of River Ganga on 18th August 2023.

8. Dr. C. Sivaperuman, Scientist-, ZSI/ANRC, Port Blair, delivered a talk on Climate Change & Endemic Birds of Andaman and Nicobar Islands in the Seminar on Climate Change & Sustainable Development as a part of India’s G20 Presidency organised by Prasar Bharati, Akasvani, Port Blair on 22nd August 2023.
9. Dr B. Sinha, Scientist – E, ZSI/NERC, Shillong, delivered a lecture entitled “Facets of faunal cataloguing in People’s Biodiversity Registers (PBRs)” in the 5-day hands on training on Lower Vertebrate Taxonomy conducted by ZSI Shillong in collaboration with NESFAS, Shillong at NESFAS on 28th August 2023; on “Documentation of Fauna in the People’s Biodiversity Register” in the workshop/ training for Field Project Associates organised by Meghalaya Biodiversity Board on 11th August 2023; an invited lecture An introductory lecture was delivered on the 28th August 2023 during “Hands on training on lower vertebrate taxonomy” organized by ZSI and North East Slow Food and Agrobiodiversity Society, Shillong.
10. Dr U. Saikia, Scientist- D, ZSI/NERC, Shillong, delivered an online lecture “An introduction to the field methods and bat taxonomy” on 23rd August 2023 during the Animal taxonomy workshop organized by Arunachal Pradesh Regional Centre of ZSI, Shillong.

- 11. Shri A. B. Meetei, Assistant Zoologist, ZSI/NERC, Shillong, delivered a lecture on Classification of Reptilian fauna during the Workshop on Animal Taxonomic organised by APRC, ZSI, Itanagar on 23rd August 2023; on Collection, Preservation and Identification of reptiles on 28th August 2023 in the Hands-on training on Lower Vertebrates taxonomy conducted by ZSI Shillong in collaboration NESFAS, Shillong.
- 12. Shri B. Saikia, Assistant Zoologist, ZSI/NERC, Shillong, delivered an online presentation on “An introduction to amphibian taxonomy” on 21st August 2023 at the Animal Taxonomy Workshop organized by APRC, ZSI, Itanagar.
- 13. Dr. Navneet Singh, Scientist -. E, ZSI, HQs, delivered an invited talk in a National Webinar on Biodiversity and its conservation,

- organised by Dept. of Zoology & Botany, Govt. Autonomous P.G. College, Satna (M.P.) on 21st August 2023.
- 14. Dr. Rahul Joshi, Scientist – D, ZSI, HQs., delivered invited talks in a Capacity Building Programme for FSI officials under NIRANTAR from August 9th to 11th and 16th to 18th August 2023 at FSI Dehradun.
 - 15. Dr. Chandra Kanta Mandal, Scientist – B, ZSI, HQs., delivered a an online lecture on Medicinal leeches of India to Ayurvedic Doctors, organized by Central Ayurveda Institute, Bhubaneswar (CCRAS-CARI) and Central Institute of Freshwater Bhubaneswar ICAR-CIFA) on 25th and 26th August on the Occasion of Golden Jubilee Celebration of the Institute.

PHOTO GALLERY



Daman visit to attend the Stakeholders meeting on the biodiversity study at burrow pit area for the Vadhavan Port Project on 26th August 2023



Visit of Secretary, MoEFCC, Ms. Leena Nandan at ZSI, Kolkata.





Felicitating Dr. Dhriti Banerjee on completion of 2 years as Director, ZSI.



Glimpses from Independence Day celebration at Head Quarters, Kolkata.



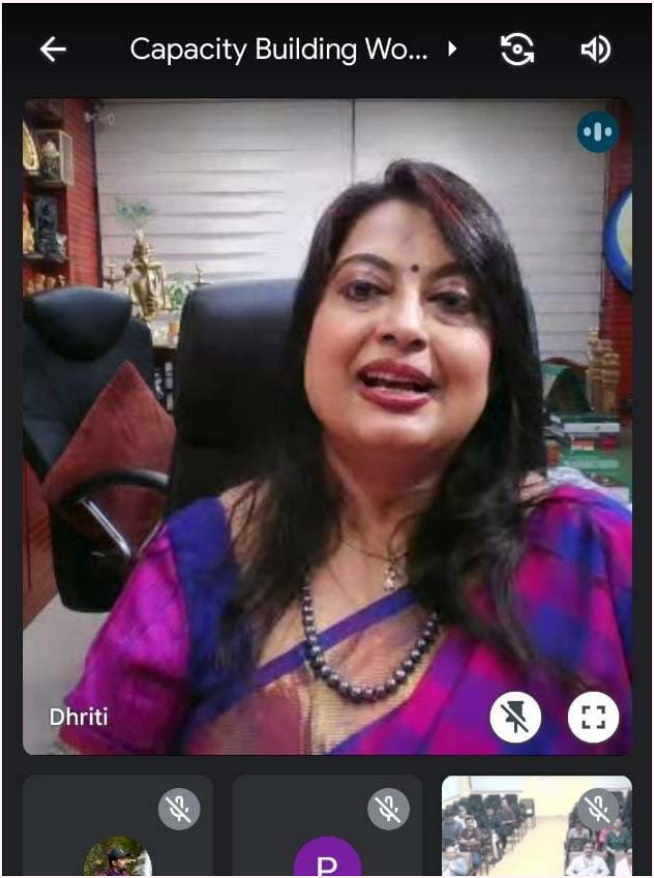
Meeting with Shri Bajpai, DIG, Coast Guard, Daman on 28th August 2023 at Daman to discuss various issues on Marine Survey of burrow pit for proposed Vandhwan port.



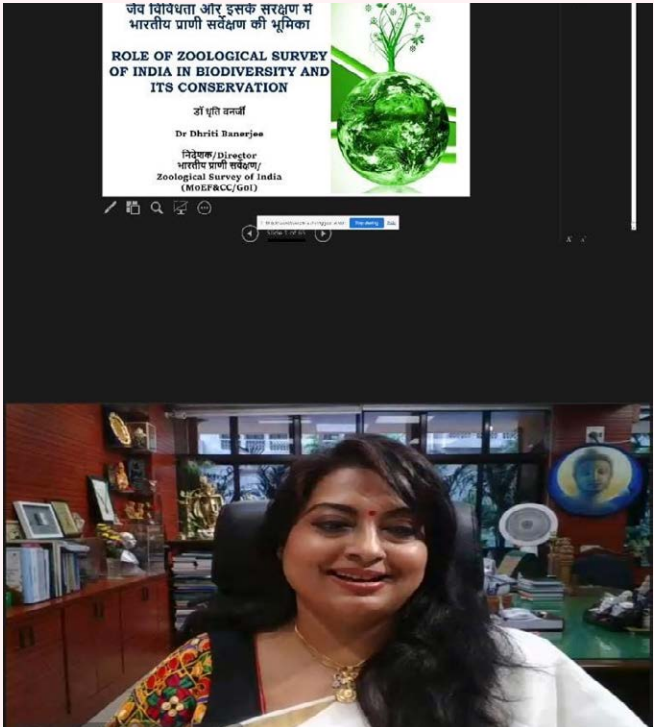
Meeting with Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA), Mumbai regarding a field work and logistics arrangement for the proposed project work with reference to development of Vadhavan Port, Palghar, Maharashtra on 11th August, 2023.



ZSI observing Chandrayaan-3 Mission: Historic moment of Landing on Moon on 23rd August 2023



Addressed the Teachers from Kendriya Vidyalaya Inservice training for PGT Biology on 4th August 2023



Chief Guest in a “National Webinar on Biodiversity and its Conservation” aimed to increase awareness among students about the importance of biodiversity, its current status and its challenges organised by Department of Zoology & Botany, Govt. Autonomous P.G. College, Satna (MP) on 21st August 2023.



Har Ghar Tiranga campaign at ZSI, Hqs on 13th August 2023

