

ZSI E-News

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Cover: *Buceros bicornis* Linnaeus, 1758

Courtesy: SRC, Chennai

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Dear Colleagues and Esteemed Readers

I am delighted to announce the successful release of the May 2025 edition of the ZSI Monthly E-News, a lively platform that showcases our recent achievements, progress, and discoveries in the field of zoological research and faunal exploration. This initiative not only embodies the collective dedication and effort of our committed scientists, researchers, and staff nationwide, but also acts as a vibrant medium to highlight advancements in biodiversity documentation, taxonomic research, and wildlife conservation initiatives. With each issue, we strive to illuminate the untold narratives of India's rich and varied fauna, ongoing field investigations, scientific advancements, and collaborative conservation efforts. It is our genuine intention to ensure that this publication is informative, insightful, and inspiring for the scientific community, policymakers, conservationists, and the general public alike.

To commemorate the 110th Foundation Day of the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI a landmark 110-hour Hackathon on Biodiversity Conservation and Climate Change is being organized. This event is dedicated to promoting innovative and technology-driven solutions to address some of the most urgent environmental issues we face today. This national-level initiative was launched across 16 regional centres of ZSI, with each

from the Director's Desk

center concentrating on a distinct theme related to biodiversity conservation and climate change. The first level of the competitions was organized at these regional centres, offering a platform for students, researchers, technologists, designers, developers, and environmental advocates to collaboratively brainstorm and devise actionable solutions. Participants were encouraged to develop applications, algorithms, models, prototypes, and policy proposals that reflect innovation, scientific understanding, and practical impact. This Hackathon serves as a call to action for individuals from diverse fields to lend their expertise toward the protection of our planet's biodiversity. By integrating science, creativity, and technology, the event aspires to spark a wave of transformative ideas that can lead to a more sustainable and resilient future. The Vision 2030 document of National Red List of Indian Flora and Fauna was prepared by ZSI along with BSI under the aegis of MoEFCC to bolster India's leadership role in species monitoring and ecological restoration of biodiversity.

This month, scientists and researchers at ZSI have successfully identified a total of 1392 species from various faunal communities. Among these, they have discovered eight new genera of freshwater crabs, twelve new species including a new species of Gall Midge, two new species of Freshwater Crabs, one new species of Frog, one new species of Millipede, one new species of Coleoptera, one species of Nematode, one new species of Spider, two new species of Hymenoptera, and two new species of Ephemeroptera. Notably, two species of deep Sea Eels, two species of Testate Amoeba, two species of Spiders, one species of Hemiptera, and three species of Hymenoptera have been newly recorded in India.

I would like to extend my warmest congratulations to the editorial team and contributors for their hard work in bringing this publication to fruition. May this E-News stand as a testament to our steadfast commitment to the nation's faunal heritage and serve as a catalyst for ongoing excellence in zoological sciences.

Jai Hind,

Dr. Dhriti Banerjee

Director

5th June 2025
Kolkata

HEADQUARTERS, KOLKATA, WEST BENGAL

Survey tours were conducted to Balukhand-Konark Wildlife Sanctuary, Odisha and Banabitan Biodiversity Park, West Bengal. A total of 508 species of faunal communities belonging to Acanthocephala, Annelida, Arachnida, Collembola, Cnideria, Diptera, Echinodermata, Ephemeroptera, Hymenoptera, Hemiptera, Mantodea, Mollusca, Nematelminthes, Odonata, Orthoptera, Platyhelminthes, Porifera, and Polychaeta were identified. Apart from these, 13 species of archaeological specimens were identified. A total of five species belonging to Arachnida, Ephemeroptera, and Hymenoptera was

described new to science. A total of six species belonging to Arachnida, Hemiptera and Hymenoptera were recorded for the first time from the country. A total of 16 species of Arachnida, Nematoda, and Hymenoptera were augmented to National Zoological Collections (NZCs). Identification and advisory services were rendered to six different educational institutions. The International Day for Biological Diversity was celebrated on 22nd May 2025 and Annual Meeting of Senior Officers of Headquarters and Regional Centres of Zoological Survey of India was held from 8th to 10th May 2025.



Balukhand-Konark Sanctuary



Balukhand-Konark Sanctuary



Kushabhadra River

NORTH EASTERN REGIONAL CENTRE, SHILLONG, MEGHALAYA

A total of 78 species of faunal communities belonging to Hemiptera, Orthoptera, Odonata, Araneae, Lepidoptera, Mollusca, Amphibia, Chiroptera, Reptilia, and Pisces were identified. A frog species, *Amolops shillong* Saikia *et al.* 2025, was described as new to science from Shillong, Meghalaya. Scientists of the centre rendered Identification and Advisory service to three institutions and reviewed four manuscripts for different journals. Regional Level-1 ZSI Hackathon on Northeast Biodiversity was organized at the Centre on 23rd May 2025. Hindi Karyashala along with a programme on “Promoting sustainable alternatives to single use plastic” was conducted at the centre on 30th May 2025.



Level-1 ZSI Hackathon on Northeast Biodiversity on the 23rd May 2025



Level-1 ZSI Hackathon on Northeast Biodiversity on the 23rd May 2025

WESTERN REGIONAL CENTRE, PUNE, MAHARASHTRA

A total of 97 species of faunal communities belonging to Amphibia, Araneae, Crustacea, Coleoptera, Diptera, Hemiptera, Hymenoptera, Blattodea, Mollusca, Myriapoda, Pisces, and Mammalia were identified. Eight genera and two species of freshwater crab and one species of millipede were described as new to science. Identification and advisory services were rendered to five different institutions and three manuscripts were reviewed by the scientists of the centre during this month. A total of ten DNA barcodes were submitted to NCBI. Level-1 ZSI Hackathon 110 hours competition on the theme “*Deccan Peninsula Biodiversity*” was organized by the centre on 24th May 2025. Mission LiFE pledge on Swacchhata was undertaken by the scientists and staff members of the centre on 24th May 2025.



Level-1 ZSI Hackathon on “*Deccan Peninsula Biodiversity*”



Level-1 ZSI Hackathon on “*Deccan Peninsula Biodiversity*”

CENTRAL ZONE REGIONAL CENTRE, JABALPUR, MADHYA PRADESH

A total of 81 species of faunal communities including Orthoptera, Odonata, Mantodea, Lepidoptera, Hemiptera, Decapoda, Amphibia, and Mollusca were identified. Two Identification and Advisory Services were rendered to Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishavidyala, Jabalpur and ZSI/ WRC, Pune. A total of 232 visitors including students from Vivekanand College, Maihar visited the museum of the centre. World Museum Day and World Biodiversity Day Were celebrated at the centre on 19th May and 22nd May 2025 respectively and scientists of this centre delivered lectures. The Officers and staff of the centre took pledge of “Ending Plastic Pollution” on the commencement of World Environment Day-2025 campaign on 26th May 2025. The Level-1 ZSI Hackathon-2025 event on “Biodiversity of Semi-Arid region” was organized by the centre on 21st May 2025 with Chief Guest being Mr. Darshan Gattani, IFS.



Level-1 ZSI Hackathon-2025 under theme-“Biodiversity of Semi Arid region” on 21.05.2025, with Chief Guest Mr. Darshan Gattani, IFS.



The Officers and staff of the Centre took pledge of “Ending Plastic Pollution” on the commencement of World Environment Day-2025 campaign on 26th May 2025.

DESERT REGIONAL CENTRE, JODHPUR, RAJASTHAN

A total of 63 species of faunal communities belonging to Gastropoda, Hemiptera, Hymenoptera, Lepidoptera, Coleoptera, and Pisces were identified. Identification and Advisory Services were rendered to BGSB University, Rajouri (J&K). The Level-1 ZSI 110-hour Hackathon, focused on the theme “Desert Biodiversity”, to commemorate

ZSI's 110th anniversary was organized at the centre on 26th May 2025. A total of 35 visitors visited the museum of the centre. A plantation drive along with rally from the campus to Shatabadi Circle was conducted with theme “Say No to Plastic - Ending Plastic Pollution Globally” on 30th May 2025 under the celebration of World Environment Day.



DRC, Zoological Survey of India took pledge during World Environment Day



DRC, Zoological Survey of India, Jodhpur hosted a Level-1 ZSI 110-hour Hackathon on 26th May, 2025

NORTHERN REGIONAL CENTRE, DEHRADUN, UTTARAKHAND

A total of 57 species of faunal communities belonging to Phthiraptera, Coleoptera, Orthoptera, Lepidoptera, Odonata, Pisces, Amphibia, and Reptilia were identified. "Mission LiFE Programme- Save Water, Save Electricity, Cleanliness Drive" was organized by the centre for creating awareness among common public and by planting saplings under the initiative of Hon'ble PM of India "Ek Ped Maa Kae Naam Campaign" in the Matri Van of the centre with 24 Women Farmers from the Remote Area of Govind Pasu Vihar and National Park, Uttarakhand on 7th May, 2025. Level-1 ZSI Hackathon 110 hours event on "Himalayan Diversity" and celebration of International Year for Biological Diversity were organized by the centre on 22nd May 2025.



Certificate distribution to participants of Level-1 ZSI Hackathon



Group photo of Participants and delegates of Level-1 ZSI Hackathon event on "Himalayan Biodiversity"

SOUTHERN REGIONAL CENTRE, CHENNAI, TAMIL NADU

A survey tour was conducted to study the faunal diversity of the Nenmara Forest Division, Palakkad District, Kerala, from 5th May to 25th May 2025. A total of 117 species of faunal communities belonging to Crustacea, Ephemeroptera, Hemiptera, Lepidoptera, Odonata, Psocoptera, Mollusca, Amphibia, Aves, and Zooplankton were identified. A gall midge species, *Dasineura basavannii* Vasanthakumar & Udikeri, 2025 has been described as new to science. Training was imparted to Zoology students from the University of Kerala and The New College, Royapettah, Chennai, focusing on faunal groups such as Orthoptera, Phytoplankton, Zooplankton, Fishes, and Lepidoptera. In commemoration of the 110th anniversary of the Zoological Survey of India, Level-1 ZSI 110 Hours of HACKATHON was organized by the centre on 28th May 2025, with the theme “*Eastern Ghats Biodiversity Conservation*”.



Level-1 ZSI Hackathon was organized on 28th May 2025, with the theme “*Eastern Ghats Biodiversity Conservation*”



Level-1 ZSI Hackathon was organized on 28th May 2025, with the theme “*Eastern Ghats Biodiversity Conservation*”

GANGETIC PLAINS REGIONAL CENTRE, PATNA, BIHAR

A total of 63 species of faunal communities belonging to Protozoa, Insecta, Mollusca, and Pisces were identified during this month. World Biodiversity Day Was celebrated at the centre on 22nd May 2025 and scientists of this centre delivered lectures. Sparrow Nest Installation Programme was organized by the centre on 24th May 2025 to promote avian conservation awareness. The

Level-1 ZSI Hackathon-2025 event on “*Gangetic Plains Biodiversity*” was organized by the centre on 27th May 2025 and it was inaugurated by Dr. Inderjeet Singh, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of Bihar Animal Sciences University and Patliputra University, and graced by Dr. Parimal Kumar Khan, Professor, Department of Zoology, Patna University, as the Special Guest.



During Level-1 ZSI Hackathon 2025 Event on 27th May 2025



Celebrating International Day for Biological Diversity on 22nd May 2025

HIGH ALTITUDE REGIONAL CENTRE, SOLAN, HIMACHAL PRADESH

A total of 75 species of faunal communities belonging to Lepidoptera, Trichoptera, Neuroptera, Hymenoptera, Orthoptera, Hemiptera, and Pisces were identified. A total of twelve DNA barcodes of Lepidoptera have been submitted to NCBI. Three research articles were

reviewed by the scientists of the centre. Level-1 ZSI 110-Hour Hackathon on Biodiversity Conservation & Climate Change on the theme “*Trans-Himalayan Biodiversity*” was organized on 28th May 2025 by the centre. A total of 24 visitors visited the museum of the centre.



Level-1 ZSI Hackathon organised by ZSI SOLAN (HP) on 28.05.2025 with the Theme “*Trans Himalayan Biodiversity and its conservation*”

MARINE BIOLOGY REGIONAL CENTRE, CHENNAI, TAMIL NADU

A total of 52 species belonging to different faunal groups were identified during this month. The Level-1 ZSI Hackathon on the theme "*Marine Biodiversity*" was organized on 23rd May 2025.



Internship for the Zoology students



ZSI-110 Hackathon on the theme "*Marine Biodiversity*"

SUNDERBAN REGIONAL CENTRE, CANNING, WEST BENGAL

A total of 49 species of faunal communities belonging to Crustacea, Mollusca, and Pisces were identified during this month. Blood Donation Camp was organized by the centre in collaboration with Bhandhu Mahal Club and Government Hospital, Canning on 1st May 2025. Swachhta Pakhwada clean up event was organized in the centre on 29th May 2025. Clean up event was also organized in Godkhali Jetty, Sunderban Tiger Reserve Gate way on 30th May by the centre. The Level-1 ZSI Hackathon-2025 event was organized by the centre on 28th May 2025 where 260 people participated.



The Level-1 ZSI Hackathon-2025 event was organized on 28th May 2025



Blood Donation Camp

FRESHWATER BIOLOGY REGIONAL CENTRE, HYDERABAD, TELANGANA

A total of 86 species of faunal communities belonging to Fishes, Aquatic Coleoptera, Aquatic Hemiptera, Branchipoda, Mollusca, and Reptilia were identified during this month. A total of nine DNA sequences were submitted to NCBI. The Level-1 ZSI Hackathon 2025 on Biodiversity conservation and climate change was

organized in commemoration of 110th Foundation Day of Zoological Survey of India. A stall was displayed by the centre at Amravati, Andhra Pradesh on 22nd May 2025 on the occasion of International Biodiversity Day 2025. Mission LiFE and Swachhta Hi Seva Special Campaigns 4.0 were conducted to generate awareness among people.



Psittacula eupatria (Linnaeus, 1766)



On the occasion of International Biodiversity Day 2025, FBRC, Hyderabad displayed stall at Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh and Shri Pawan Kalyan, Deputy Chief Minister, Andhra Pradesh visited the stall

WESTERN GHATS REGIONAL CENTRE, KOZHIKODE, KERALA

A survey tour was conducted to Nelliampathy hills, Nenmara Forest Division, Palakkad from 13th to 17th May 2025. A total of 108 species of faunal communities belonging to Testate Amoeba, Coleoptera, Hymenoptera, Lepidoptera, Arachnida, and Pisces were identified. One species of Coleoptera: Tenebrionidae was described as new to science. Two species of testate amoeba was describe for the first time from the country. One Identification and advisory service was rendered to Sacred Heart College, Chalakkudi and two manuscripts were reviewed by the scientists of the centre. The Level-1 ZSI Hackathon-2025 was organized on the theme "*Western Ghats – Biodiversity Conservation*" on 27th May 2025 by the centre. A total of 26 visitors visited the museum of the centre.



Prize Winners of Level-1 ZSI Hackathon



Workshop on Animal Taxonomy

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

A total of 180 species of different faunal communities were identified. *Coloconger scholesi* Chan, 1967 and *Ophichthus erabo* (Jordan & Snyder, 1901), two deep sea eels were reported for the first time from Indian waters below 500 – 600 m depth. A total of eight DNA barcodes were uploaded in the NCBI. The Level-1 ZSI Hackathon-2025 event on “*Estuarine Faunal Diversity*” was organized by the centre on 27th May 2025 and the inaugural ceremony was graced by Prof. Geetanjali Dash, Honorable Vice Chancellor, Berhampur University, as the Chief Guest, Prof. Sushil Kumar Dutta, Former Professor, Maharaja Sriram Chandra Bhanja Deo University, Baripada, and Mr. Sunny Khokkhar, Divisional Forest Officer (DFO), Berhampur, as Guest of Honour.



Level-1 ZSI Hackathon-2025 event organized on 27th May 2025



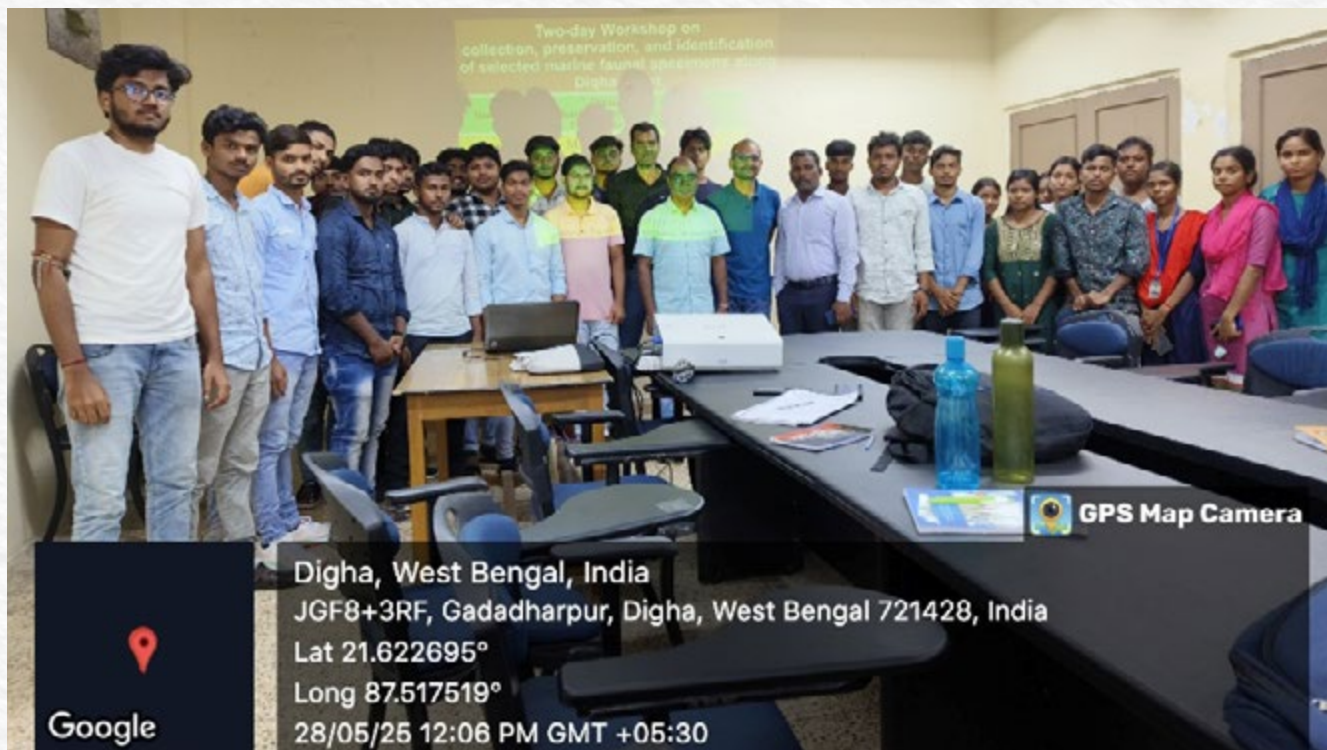
Level-1 ZSI Hackathon-2025 event organized on 27th May 2025

MARINE AQUARIUM AND REGIONAL CENTRE, DIGHA, WEST BENGAL



Level-1 ZSI Hackathon at ZSI MARC Digha on 23.05.2025

Local survey tour was conducted to Champa estuary and Hospital ghat, West Bengal on 20th, 21st, and 27th May 2025. A total of 39 species of faunal communities belonging to Mollusca, Echinodermata, Nematoda, and Crustacea were identified. One species of nematode was described as new to science. One Identification and Advisory service was rendered to K.T. Mar Thoma College for Women, Perumbavoor, Ernakulam District, Kerala and three manuscripts were reviewed by the scientists of the centre. A total of 18833 visitors visited the museum of the centre. The Level-1 ZSI Hackathon was organized on 23rd May 2025. A plantation drive along with Swachhata Pakhwada Pledge Taking Session was organized by the centre as a part of the Mission LiFE initiative, Pre-Campaign World Environment Day 2025 celebration, themed “One Nation, One Mission: End Plastic Pollution”.



A two-day workshop on collection, preservation, and identification of selected marine faunal specimens along the Digha coast was organized by the ZSI, MARC, Digha

NEW DISCOVERIES

NEW SPECIES



Male



Female

Amolops shillong Saikia et al. 2025



Nilgiriana paloti Pati, 2025



Vanni gracilis Pati, 2025



Polydrepanum xiphosum Muhsina, Pooja & Kalawate, 2025



Irura meghalaya Sudhin & Sen, 2025



Maculonomia orii Rameshkumar, Bossert & Majumder, 2025



Colletes niui Rameshkumar & Sardar, 2025



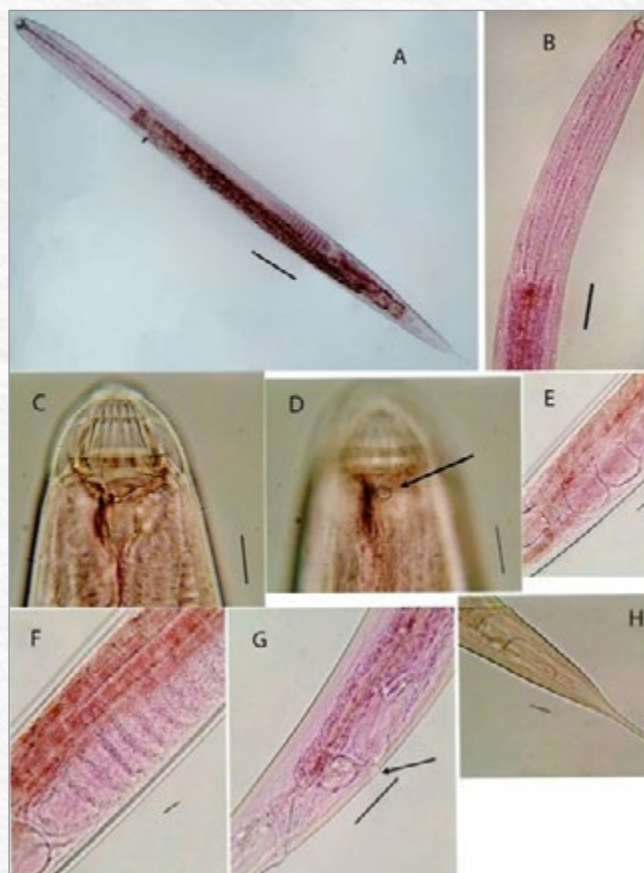
Potamanthellus diversprimus Vasanth, Kubendran & Subramanian, 2025



Potamanthellus sineiugi Vasanth, Kubendran & Subramanian, 2025



Spinogauromaia ruzzieri Viswanath, Hegde & Remia, 2025



Parasphaerolaimus bengalensis Manna, Balakrishna & Ansari, 2025

New Records



Coloconger scholesi Chan, 1967



Ophichthus erabo (Jordan & Snyder, 1901)



Leucauge rubromaculata Benjamin, 2024



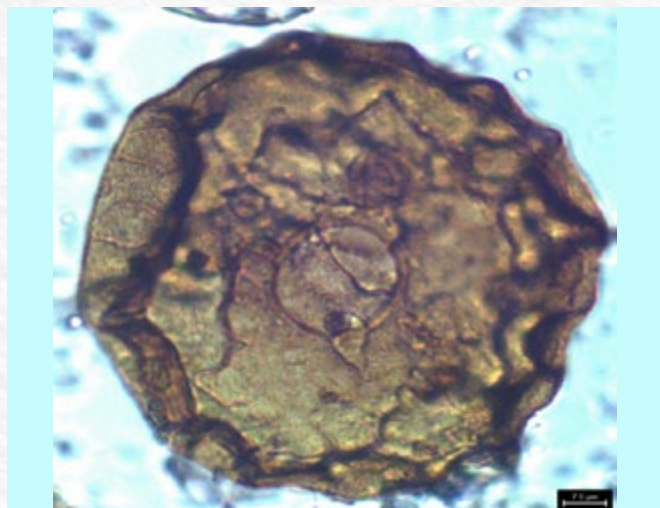
Oxyopes gyirongensis Hu & Li, 1987



Colletes roborovskyi Friese, 1913



Colletes splendidus Ferrari, Niu & Zhu, 2021



Arcella costata Ehrenberg, 1847



Trinema lenticularis Siemensma et Lucow, 2025



Maculonomia penangensis (Cockerell, 1920)

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MEETINGS ATTENDED

1. Dr. Dhriti Banerjee, Director, ZSI, attended a strategic meeting with representatives of IORA Ecological Solutions to explore collaboration in climate policy, conservation science, and joint initiatives on 1st May 2025; was invited to participate in-person to a full-day write-shop for finalisation of National Adaptation Plan (NAP) chapters on Forest & Ecosystem and Biodiversity, organised by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) from 1st to 2nd May 2025; took part in the inaugural online bi-monthly review meeting for ZSI and BSI on 6th May 2025, chaired by the Joint Secretary (CS-II), and proposed key topics discussed included Budget/Expenditure related matters, administrative matters (DPC/RRs/abolition of posts, E-office implementation/Biometric attendance, Status of online APAR, Court cases, Disciplinary matters, if any, Capital projects related issues, Issues under FR 56 (j), Status of Mission Recruitment, Compassionate Appointment related issues, and other issues as permitted by the Chair; played a key role in formalising the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between ZSI, BSI and the Indian Army. This partnership is aimed to support joint research, environmental conservation, biodiversity documentation and strategic data sharing in sensitive and remote regions on 7th May 2025; participated in a Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) meeting organised by MoEF&CC, focusing on institutional progress on 8th May 2025; attended along with senior scientists, and committee members the 'Annual Meeting of Senior Officers of Headquarters and Regional Centres of Zoological Survey of India' in ZSI Hq. from 8th to 10th May 2025; was invited to attend the seventeenth meeting of the 'Inter-Ministerial Group on Environmental – Economic Accounting – India' by Secretary, Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation on 13th May 2025 at the Conference Hall (Second Floor), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Khurshid Lal Bhavan, Janpath Road, New Delhi; attended a meeting of the 'Science City Executive Governing Body', where she shared valuable insights on 14th May 2025; attended the 'Mission Recruitment' discussion hosted by MoEF&CC on 16th May 2025; delivered the opening speech at the regional training on biodiversity data mobilisation in the Hindu Kush Himalayan region, hosted by International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) on 19th May 2025 and highlighted that ZSI has been at the forefront of biodiversity exploration, documentation, and conservation for more than a century; took part in a video conference with the Parliamentary Official Language Committee, reinforcing the efforts undertaken in ZSI for promoting use of official language (OL) for daily official work; delivered the opening remarks in an elocution competition hosted by ZSI's Training and Extension Division on the International Day for Biodiversity and addressed the participants and presented awards, encouraging youth engagement in conservation; attended a meeting in New Delhi with the Joint Secretary of MoEF&CC regarding the upcoming Animal Taxonomy Summit on 23rd May 2025; attended inauguration ceremony of several key conservation facilities in the august presence of Ms. Nameeta Prasad, Joint Secretary, MoEF&CC at the AJC Bose Indian Botanic Garden (Howrah) on 30th May 2025; attended a meeting on the National Red List of Indian Flora and Fauna, where The IUCN Vision 2030 document was released, at the Central National Herbarium, Howrah to bolster India's leadership role in species monitoring and ecological restoration of biodiversity on 30th May 2025.
2. Dr. C. Raghunathan, Scientist-F, ZSI/HQ, Kolkata, attended meeting with IORA on 1st May 2025 at ZSI Headquarters regarding sharing of ZSI data for biodiversity and climate change modeling; attended meeting with CCU officials at ZSI, Chennai to discuss the construction progress of additional building at ZSI campus, Chennai; served as a Member Secretary in Annual Progress Monitoring Committee meeting of ZSI held from 8th to 10th May 2025; attended meeting with CCU at Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh for the construction of EGRC building and at ZSI Hyderabad to inspect the progress of museum renovation work from 13th to 16th May 2025; provided the comments on the proposed galleries for NMNH, Gangtok to the Ministry on 15th May 2025; served as a Member in the assessment committee for Sr. Zoological Assistants from 21st to 23rd May 2025; served as a Member in the interview committee for the recruitment of different scientific posts in GNI project held on 26th and 27th May 2025 at Chennai; attended IUCN red listing and Long-term monitoring of biodiversity meeting chaired by the Joint Secretary, MoEF&CC held on 31st May 2025 at BSI, Kolkata.
3. Dr. Gaurav Sharma, Scientist-F, ZSI/NRC, Dehradun, attended meeting of Uttarakhand Biodiversity Board,

Dehradun held under the Chairmanship of the Chairman, UBB at Conference Hall of Uttarakhand Biodiversity Board, Dehradun on 20th May, 2025.

4. Dr. V.D. Hegde, Scientist-F, ZSI/WGRC, Kozhikode, participated in a moderated panel discussion on the theme "*Future of Museums*" organised by Regional Science Centre and Planetarium, Calicut on 13th May, 2025; participated in inaugural session of Entomocourse 2025 organised by Prof. T.C. Narendran Trust for Animal Taxonomy held on 14th May 2025 at Kerala Forest Research Institute (KFRI), Peechi, Thrissur.
5. Dr. Avtar Kaur Sidhu, Scientist-F, ZSI/HARC, Solan, attended the International Day for Biological Diversity as Chief Guest, organized by the Botanical Survey of India, High Altitude Western Himalayan Regional Centre, Nauni, Solan on 22nd May 2025.
6. Dr. Indu Sharma Scientist-F, ZSI/DRC, Jodhpur, attended the event on International Day for Biological Diversity 2025 on the theme "*Harmony with Nature and Sustainable Development*" hosted by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) in collaboration with various state and national organizations, aimed to raise awareness about biodiversity conservation at Radisson, Udaipur, Rajasthan on 22nd May 2025.
7. Dr. P. S. Bhatnagar, Scientist-E, ZSI/CZRC, Jabalpur, attended Wildlife Board meeting of MP state in Bhopal on 21st May 2025 chaired by Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Mohan Yadav; attended meeting of Central Govt Coordination Committee, Jabalpur.
8. Dr. Anil Mohapatra, Scientist-E, ZSI/EBRC, Gopalpur, attended a meeting for establishing GRACU in Ghodahada Dam on 20th May 2025 in the RCCF conference hall and provided input to the Odisha State Environment, Forest and Climate Change Department.
9. Dr. Basudev Tripathy Scientist-E, ZSI/WRC, Pune, along with Dr. K. P. Dinesh, Scientist-E, attended vetting of CRZ report by GUIDE- field survey conducted along Gujarat coast from 2nd to 6th May 2025; attended virtual meeting for celebration of World Environment Day 2025 organized by MOEFCC on 22nd May 2025 along with Smt. Rita Deb, Assistant Zoologist.
10. डॉ. ए.एस. कलावटे, वैज्ञानिक-ई, ज़ेडएसआई/ पुणे, ने 08.05.2025 को एनसीएल में नराकास की पत्रिका के नाम को अंतिम रूप देने के संबंध में संपर्क मंडल की बैठक में भाग लिया। वह डॉ. एस.एस. तलमले, वैज्ञानिक-सी के साथ नगर राजभाषा
11. Dr. S. Balakrishnan, Scientist - E, ZSI/MARC, Digha, attended online discussion meeting cum Training on uploading of events on MERILIFE PORTAL for WED-2025 CAMPAIGN Hosted by MoEFCC on 22nd and 28th May 2025.
12. Dr. S. D. Paunikar, Scientist-E, ZSI/CZRC, Jabalpur, attended and participated virtual webinar topic on "*Freshwater Animal Diversity of India and Conservation Challenges*" organized by IISc-EIACP [PC].
13. Mrs. Jennifer Lyngdoh, Scientist-E, ZSI/NERC, Shillong, attended a one-day workshop on the "Implementation of Rajbhasha in Offices" on 16th May 2025 at Assam Rifles, Shillong, organized by the Town official Language Implementation committee, Shillong; attended an online training along with Dr. Bikramjit Sinha, Scientist - E, on uploading of events on MeriLiFE PORTAL for WED-2025 CAMPAIGN hosted by MOEFCC on 22nd May 2025.
14. Dr. P. C. Pathania, Scientist-E, ZSI/HARC, Solan, attended the International Day for Biological Diversity as Guest of Honour, organized by the Botanical Survey of India, High Altitude Western Himalayan Regional Centre, Nauni, Solan on 22nd May 2025.
15. Dr. Souvik Sen, Scientist - E, ZSI/HQ, Kolkata, attended the MoU signing ceremony between Counter Insurgency and Jungle Warfare School and Zoological Survey of India, at Central National Herbarium, BSI, Howrah on 07th May 2025; attended institution-wise review meeting through video conference for monitoring of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), organised by RT Division, MoEFCC, on 13th May 2025; attended a meeting on '*Red listing of Species*' and '*Long Term Monitoring Plots*' under the chairpersonship of Ms. Nameeta Prasad, Joint Secretary, MoEFCC on 30th May 2025 at Central National Herbarium, BSI, Howrah.
16. Dr. P. Girish Kumar, Scientist-D, ZSI/WGRC, Kozhikode, attended a meeting of Research Nodal Officers on 19th May 2025 regarding Ph.D. admission procedures organized by the Directorate of Research, University of Calicut via online.
17. Ms. Supriya Nandy, Scientist - D, ZSI/HQ, Kolkata along with Ms. Debashree Dam, Scientist - C, Dr. Dola Roy, Scientist - B and Ms. Anubarna Dutta Chowdhury, Senior Zoological Assistant, attended a

Palaeontology seminar (virtually) on “*Deciphering the Fossil Record*” organized by Geological Survey of India in association with Palaeontological Society of India on 16th May 2025.

18. Dr. Tamal Mondal, Scientist-D, ZSI/HQ, Kolkata, provided reply on Key action points from review meeting - RMNH, Gangtok Climate Lab for MoEFCC as required through ZSI/HQ; prepared replies of 16th question on the Informal Discussions held by the Parliamentary Committee on Estimates pertaining to Division/schemes/ programmes on Biodiversity conservation initiatives in NER in connection with the study Visit of the Parliamentary Committee on 28th April 2025 at Itanagar for MoEFCC as required through ZSI/HQ.
19. Dr. Atanu Naskar, Scientist - C, ZSI/HQ, Kolkata, attended the Ph.D. entrance interview as a ZSI representative held at West Bengal State University on 16th May 2025 for the session 2025-26.
20. Ms. Debashree Dam, Scientist-C, ZSI/HQ, Kolkata, attended an online meeting hosted by MoEFCC wrt uploading of events on Meri Life portal for World Environment day -2025 campaign on 22nd May 2025; attended an online meeting hosted by MoEFCC on 28th May 2025 regarding conducting Swachhata Pakhwada from 1st - 15th June 2025 with reference to WED 2025 focusing on ending Plastic Pollution.
21. Dr. Sandeep Kushwaha, Scientist-C, ZSI/CZRC, Jabalpur, attended meeting with Director IIITDM, Jabalpur for the celebration of ZSI Hackathon.
22. Dr. Jayita Sengupta, Scientist - B, ZSI/HQ, Kolkata, attended a meeting about Assessment of Aquatic Biodiversity in Sundarbans under WB-FBCCCR Project on 6th May 2025 at Conference Hall, Bikash Bhawan as deputed by Director, Zoological Survey of India; served as a member of Interview committee for NMHS funded project “*Oxford Nanophore sequencing based faunal diversity mapping in the Indian Himalayan Region*” on 27th and 28th May 2025.
23. Dr. Bhaskar saikia, Assistant Zoologist, ZSI/NERC, Shillong, attended and presented a paper titled “*Role of Tradition in Biodiversity Conservation: A 21st-Century Perspective from the Khasi Hills of Meghalaya, North-East India*” in the 2-day National Seminar on “*Indian Knowledge Systems*” organized by Lady Keane College, Shillong on 1st and 2nd May 2025.
24. Dr. Suranjana Banerjee, Assistant Zoologist, ZSI/HQ, Kolkata, along with Mr. Soumen Roy, Senior Zoological Assistant participated two days’ National Conference on addressing challenges and showing resilience against Climate Change in Eastern Region of India at Kalyani University on 29th and 30th May 2025.

TRAININGS ORGANIZED

1. ZSI/NRC, Dehradun, organized One Day Training Programme on the topic entitled “*Status of Faunal Diversity in India and efforts on their Conservation*” to 24 Women Farmers from the Remote Area of Govind Pasu Vihar and National Park, Uttarakhand held at ZSI, NRC, Dehradun on 7th May 2025; organized One Day Training Programme on the topic entitled “*Status of Faunal Diversity in the Indian Himalaya and efforts on their Conservation*” during International Year for Biological Diversity held at the conference hall of ZSI, NRC, Dehradun on 22nd May 2025 and scientists of this centre delivered lectures.
2. ZSI/WGRC, Kozhikode, organized a ‘Entomo Course 2025’, a workshop on Insect Taxonomy & Entrepreneurship in Entomology in collaboration with Prof. T.C. Narendran Trust for Animal Taxonomy, Zoology department, Calicut University & KFRI, Peechi at KFRI campus from 14th to 17th May 2025; organized a one-week workshop on Animal Taxonomy from 19th to 23rd May 2025 for 35 M.Sc. students of Kongunadu Arts and Science College, Coimbatore, Maharajas College, Eranakulam, The New College, Chennai, Malabar Christian College, Kozhikode, St. Gregorios College, Kottarakara and scientists of this centre delivered lectures during both the programmes.
3. ZSI/MARC, Digha organized two-day workshop on collection, preservation, and identification of selected marine faunal specimens along the Digha coast on 27th and 28th May 2025 and scientists of the centre delivered lectures.
4. ZSI/MBRC, Chennai organized an internship programme on ‘*Taxonomy of Marine Fauna*’ for Zoology students from 20th to 30th May 2025, in which students from one University and five colleges took part.

TRAININGS ATTENDED

1. Some officers and staff of ZSI/HQ, Kolkata completed training in IUCN modules and iGOT Karmayogi platform.
2. Mr. Shouvik Mali, Mr. Supradipta Dutta, and Mr.

Arup Chanda, Junior Research Fellows, ZSI/HQ, Kolkata, attended seven days training workshop on “DNA BARCODING” organized by InBOL Healthcare Educational Centre, Kolkata.

LECTURES DELIVERED

1. Dr. Gaurav Sharma, Scientist-F, ZSI/NRC, Dehradun, delivered lecture on “*Status of Faunal Diversity and efforts on their Conservation in India*” to the 48 students and Faculty in the “GRAFEST 2025 Event- Nature Navigator & Jungle Chronicles” held in the conference hall of Graphic Era (Deemed to be University), Dehradun on 3rd May, 2025; delivered lecture on “*Status of Faunal Diversity in Uttarakhand*” to 24 Women Farmers from the Remote Area of Govind Pasu Vihar and National Park, Uttarakhand on 7th May 2025.
2. Dr. Avtar Kaur Sidhu, Scientist-F, ZSI/HARC, Solan, delivered a lecture to school students on Biodiversity and the importance to conserve nature and served as a Judge for the painting competition for school children, organized by the Botanical Survey of India, High Altitude Western Himalayan Regional Centre, Nauni, Solan, on 22nd May 2025.
3. Dr. S. D. Paunikar, Scientist-E, ZSI/CZRC, Jabalpur, delivered a lecture on “*Collection, preservation and Identification and diversity of Lepidoptera (Moth)*” to the Students from PM College of Excellence, Maihar and Govt. College, Manjholi on 30th May 2025.
4. Dr. Anil Mohapatra, Scientist-E, ZSI/EBRC, Gopalpur, delivered a lecture on “*New species discovery of Marine fish on Indian context: process and*

Challenges” in the National Seminar on Role of Zoological Research in Achieving Sustainable Development Goals, Organised by P. G. Department of Zoology, Maharaja Sriram Chandra Bhanja Deo University, Baripada on 3rd May 2025; delivered a lecture on “*Understanding Marine Biodiversity and conservation*” in the National Seminar on Man-Nature and Wildlife Relationship in Protected Areas: In the Context of Viksit Bharat, Organised by P.G. Department of Wildlife and Biodiversity Conservation, Maharaja Sriram Chandra Bhanja Deo University, Baripada on 4th May 2025.

5. Dr. R. H. Raina, Scientist- E, ZSI/DRC, Jodhpur, delivered an invited lecture on “*Role of Bees in pollination ecology*” on the occasion of World Bee Day at Shri Sumer Mahila PG College, Jodhpur on 20th May 2025.
6. Dr. Sandeep Kushwaha, Scientist-C, ZSI/CZRC, Jabalpur, delivered a lecture at The Grenadiers Regimental Centre, Jabalpur on renovation of Museum specimens.
7. Dr. Asish Kumar Das, Project Scientist-1, ZSI/EBRC, Gopalpur, delivered a lecture on “*Turtles of Odisha with special reference to Olive Ridley Sea Turtles*” Conducted by NSS BUREAU, CHSE, GOVT. OF ODISHA on 23rd May 2025.

PHOTO GALLERY



Paying of homage during the Annual Meeting



Felicitations of Dr. K. Venkatraman, Former Director (ZSI) and Chairperson of committee during the Annual Meeting of Senior Officers of Headquarters and Regional Centres of Zoological Survey of India



Felicitations of Director, ZSI during the Annual Meeting of Senior Officers of Headquarters and Regional Centres of Zoological Survey of India



During the scientific session of regional centres, ZSI (Online) at the Annual Meeting of Senior Officers of Headquarters and Regional Centres of Zoological Survey of India



Inauguration of renovated Scanning Electron Microscopy Lab by Dr. Dhriti Banerjee, Director, ZSI



During the concluding session of elocution competition organized as part of the International Day for Biodiversity hosted by ZSI's Training and Extension Division



During the release of the IUCN Vision 2030 document during a meeting on the National Red List of Indian Flora and Fauna at the Central National Herbarium, Howrah



Release of the IUCN Vision 2030 document during a meeting on the National Red List of Indian Flora and Fauna at the Central National Herbarium, Howrah



A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between ZSI, BSI and the Indian Army with an aim to support joint research, environmental conservation, biodiversity documentation and strategic data sharing in sensitive and remote regions.



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