

ZSI E-News

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Cover: *Chromodoris lineolata*
Hasselt, 1824
Courtesy: ANRC, Sri Vijay Puram

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Dear Colleagues, Readers, Partners and Friends,

It is with great pleasure and pride I introduce the January 2025 edition of the E-News of the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI). This publication demonstrates our unwavering commitment towards excellence, innovation, and discovery on faunal exploration and biodiversity research in India. The Zoological Survey of India has consistently led the way in scientific exploration, species documentation, and conservation initiatives, significantly contributing to the understanding of our nation's rich and varied fauna. With each edition of this e-newsletter, we aim to present the most recent advancements, research outcomes, and insights that further our overarching goal of environmental sustainability and biodiversity conservation.

ZSI plays a crucial role in facilitating the IUCN National Red Listing Assessment of Indian Fauna and in formulating a strategic roadmap for the assessment process aligned with India's IUCN

from the Director's Desk

Vision 2030. This month, ZSI published the ZSI Annual Report 2023-2024 and launched the website for the Animal Taxonomy Summit (ATS) 2025. Additionally, a pioneering 110-hour "Hackathon" focused on biodiversity conservation was initiated to commemorate the 110th anniversary of ZSI Foundation Day. ZSI is at the forefront of the Capacity Building programme nationwide, having conducted over 15 such initiatives in Kolkata and various regional centers across India. In this month, ZSI scientists and researchers successfully identified a total of 1585 species of faunal communities across diverse ecosystems in India. This accomplishment includes the discovery of ten new species, comprising two new Psocoptera species, one new Ephemeroptera species, six new Moth species, and one new Fish species. Notably, 13 diptera species, one ephemeroptera species, one araneae species, and one moth species have been newly recorded in India.

This publication reflects the dedication and effort of our scientists, and researchers who diligently work to maintain the legacy of excellence that the ZSI embodies. I express my sincere gratitude to all contributors and readers who support this initiative, as your involvement energizes our shared mission to promote zoological research in India.

May this E-News inspire and serve as a valuable resource for all those who are passionate about India's biodiversity and its conservation.

Jai Hind,

Dr. Dhriti Banerjee
Director

5th February 2025

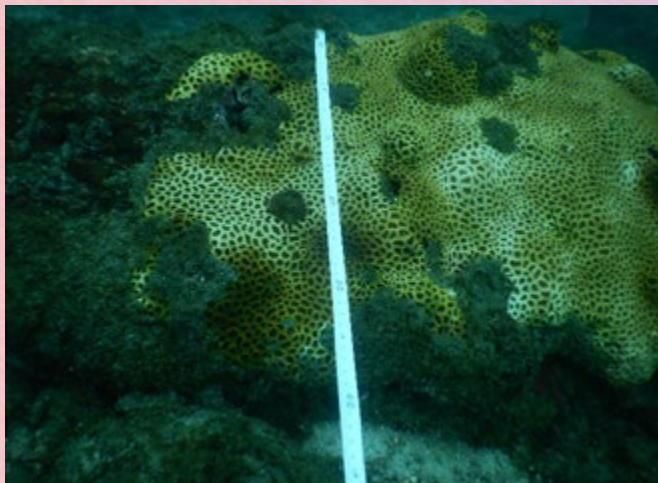
Kolkata

HEADQUARTERS, KOLKATA, WEST BENGAL

Survey tours were conducted to Konkan and Malabar Coasts of India, Malvan Marine Wildlife Sanctuary, Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and different localities of Sundarbans. A total of 585 species of faunal communities belonging to Acanthocephala, Annelida, Arachnida, Cnideria, Collembola, Diptera, Echinodermata, Hymenoptera, Lepidoptera, Mollusca, Nematohelminthes, Orthoptera, Platyhelminthes, and Porifera were identified. Six species of Lepidoptera and one species of Nematohelminthes were described new to science. Thirteen species of Diptera, one species of Araneae and one species of Lepidoptera are recorded for the first time from the country. A total of eighty-two species of Arachnida, Diptera, Hymenoptera, Lepidoptera, Nematoda, and Platyhelminthes were augmented to National Zoological Collections (NZCs). Identification and advisory services were rendered to Ranchi University, Sido Kanhu Murmu University, University of Calcutta, University of Burdwan and Mohanlal Sukharia University.



76th Republic Day Celebration



Assessment of benthic cover through LIT studies



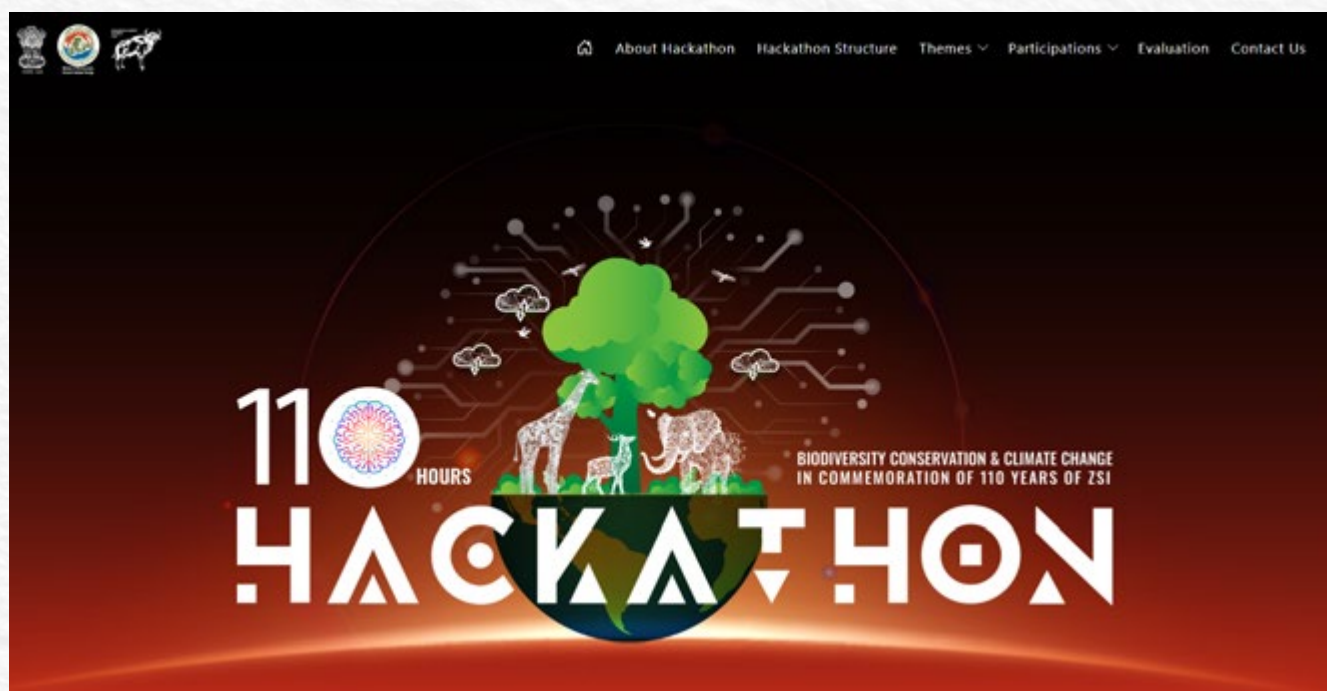
Elysia marginata (Pease, 1871)



Turbinaria mesenterina (Lamarck, 1816)



Launch of Animal Taxonomy Summit 2025



Launch of 110 Hours Hackathon on Biodiversity Conservation and Climate Change

WESTERN REGIONAL CENTRE, PUNE, MAHARASHTRA

A survey tour was conducted to Bhagwan Mahavir Wildlife Sanctuary and Mollem National Park, Goa from 22nd January to 31st January 2025. A total of ninety one species of faunal communities belonging to Coleoptera, Hemiptera, Blattodea, Myriapoda, Mollusca, Hymenoptera, Pisces, and Amphibia were identified.

भारतीय प्राणी सर्वेक्षण, पश्चिमी प्रादेशिक केंद्र, पुणे की हिंदी वार्षिक पत्रिका "कोशिका" को नगर राजभाषा कार्यान्वयन समिति-2, पुणे

के एक दिवसीय हिन्दी राजभाषा संगोष्ठी एवं पुरस्कार वितरण समारोह में सम्मनित किया गया। गृह पत्रिका को कार्यक्रम के दौरान तीसरा पुरस्कार प्राप्त हुआ। Identification and advisory services were rendered to six different institutions and five manuscripts were reviewed. A total of sixty DNA barcodes submitted to NCBI. A total of 535 students visited the museum of the centre during this month. World Hindi Day, and Republic Day were celebrated in the centre.



Republic Day Celebration



हिंदी पत्रिका कोशिका हेतु नगर राजभाषा कार्यान्वयन समिति द्वारा प्रदत्त पुरस्कार

CENTRAL ZONE REGIONAL CENTRE, JABALPUR, MADHYA PRADESH

A total of 81 species of faunal communities including Orthoptera, Lepidoptera, Hemiptera, Amphibia, and Mollusca were identified. Two identification and advisory services had been rendered to Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, Jabalpur. World Hindi Day and Republic

Day was celebrated on 10th January and 26th January 2025 respectively. A total of 138 visitors including Dr. S. S. Sarkar, Deputy Director General, Geological Survey of India and forty-six forest range officers trainees visited the museum of the centre.



Five days Workshop on Taxonomy, Preservation, Museology and Basic Geospatial Technology



Officers & staff of ZSI, CZRC, Jabalpur celebrated the 76th Republic day at the centre

NORTHERN REGIONAL CENTRE, DEHRADUN, UTTARAKHAND

A total of 92 species of faunal communities belonging to Phthiraptera, Coleoptera, Lepidoptera, Odonata, Pisces, Amphibia, and Reptilia were identified. "Mission Life Programme- Save Water, Save Electricity, Cleanliness Drive" was organized in the Kaulagarh Market Dehradun to raise awareness among common public and also by planting saplings under the initiative of Hon'ble PM of India "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam Campaign" by present and former Staff of ZSI, NRC, Dehradun at Kaulagarh Market and in the

Matri Van of ZSI, NRC, Dehradun on 1st, 3rd, 10th, 25th and 26th January 2025. The 76th Republic Day was celebrated in the centre. Mrs. Purbita Roy Sharma, Senior Zoological Assistant had received Gold Medal and First Position in Paper Poster presentation competition organized jointly by Gurukul Kangri University and Indian Academy of Environmental Sciences, Haridwar on 28th and 29th January 2025.



Dr. Gaurav Sharma unfurled National Flag on Republic Day



Dr. K. Venkataraman, Former Director, ZSI and Dr. Basudev Tripathy, O/C, ZSI, WRC, Pune planted saplings under Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam at Matri Van of ZSI, NRC, Dehradun

SOUTHERN REGIONAL CENTRE, CHENNAI, TAMIL NADU

A total of 230 species of faunal communities belonging to Crustacea, Ephemeroptera, Hemiptera, Lepidoptera, Odonata, Psocoptera, Mollusca, Amphibia, Aves, and Zooplankton were identified. Two new species of Psocoptera, viz. *Hemipsocus mockfordi* Ramesh, Babu & Subramanian, 2025, and *Hemipsocus menoni* Ramesh,

Babu & Subramanian, 2025 were described. Additionally, one new species and a new record of mayfly, *Platybaetis arunachalensis* Vasanth, Kubendran, Subramanian & Gattoliat, 2025 and *Platybaetis uenoi* Müller-Liebenau, 1980 were reported from India. The 76th Republic Day was celebrated in the office premises.



Indian blackbird – *Turdus simillimus* Jerdon, 1839

GANGETIC PLAINS REGIONAL CENTRE, PATNA, BIHAR

Survey tour was conducted to Bhimbandh Wildlife Sanctuary and Baraila Wetland, Bihar, from 30th December 2024 to 10th January 2025. A total of 56 species of faunal communities belonging to Protozoa, Insects, Mollusca, and Fishes were identified. Republic Day was celebrated at the centre on 26th January 2025.



Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus* observed during field survey to Bhimbandh Wildlife Sanctuary, Bihar



Public awareness for biodiversity conservation during faunal survey at Bhimbandh WLS, Jamui

HIGH ALTITUDE REGIONAL CENTRE, SOLAN, HIMACHAL PRADESH

A total of 85 species of faunal communities belonging to Lepidoptera, Orthoptera, Trichoptera, Neuroptera, and Pisces were identified. The scientists of the centre reviewed three research articles. National Voters' Day and Republic Day was celebrated on 25th January and 26th January 2025 respectively.



Officers & staff of ZSI, HARC, Solan taking oath on National voters' Day



Officers & staff of ZSI, HARC, Solan celebrated the 76th Republic day at the centre

ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR REGIONAL CENTRE, SRI VIJAY PURAM, ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS

Two survey tours were conducted to North and Middle Andaman to study marine and terrestrial faunal diversity from 13th to 23th January 2025 and to Great Nicobar Island from 7th to 31st January 2025 and local surveys were conducted to Burmanallah, Kodiyaghat and Marina Park, South Andaman on 28th, 29th and 30th January 2025 to study the intertidal fauna. A total of 112 species of faunal communities belonging to Coleoptera, Lepidoptera, Mollusca, Decapoda, Fishes, and Echinodermata were identified. Thirteen species of Diptera are recorded for the first time from India. Awareness campaigns under Mission LiFE and “Ek Ped Ma ke Naam” were conducted. The 76th Republic Day was celebrated in the centre.



Platax pinnatus (Linnaeus, 1758)



Students of Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Car Nicobar

SUNDERBAN REGIONAL CENTRE, CANNING, WEST BENGAL

One survey tour was conducted to Sunderbans from 3rd to 8th January 2025. A total of 45 species of faunal communities belonging to Fish, Mollusca, and Crustacea were identified. ZSI stall was displayed in Sunderban Mela from 3rd to 12th January 2025 and around 2519 public visited the stall. Swami Vivekananda's birthday and 76th Republic Day were celebrated on 12th and 26th January 2025 respectively at the centre.



Mangrove Associated faunal collection in Sunderbans



76th Republic Day flag unfurling

FRESHWATER BIOLOGY REGIONAL CENTRE, HYDERABAD, TELANGANA

Survey tours were conducted under the projects “Faunal diversity of Kinnerasani and Pakhal Wildlife Sanctuary, Telangana” from 2nd to 16th January 2025 and “Faunal diversity of River Godavari” from 16th to 30th January 2025. A total of 85 species of faunal communities belonging to Fishes, Hemiptera, Branchipods, Mollusca, and Amphibia were identified. Thirteen DNA sequences were submitted to NCBI. Republic Day was celebrated at the centre on 26th January 2025. Mission Life and Swachhta Hi Seva Special Campaigns 4.0 were conducted to generate awareness among people.



Hydrophylax bahuvistara Padhye, Jadhav, Modak, Nameer, Dahanukar, 2015



Officers & staff of ZSI, FBRC, Hyderabad celebrated the 76th Republic day at the centre

WESTERN GHAT REGIONAL CENTRE, KOZHIKODE, KERALA

A total of 137 species of faunal communities belonging to Testate Amoeba, Coleoptera, Scolopendromorpha, Mantodea, Hymenoptera, Lepidoptera, Arachnida, and Pisces were identified. Identification and advisory services were rendered to four institutions and two manuscripts were reviewed during this month. The centre has been declared as GREEN INSTITUTE by the Kozhikode Municipal Corporation. A total of 276 people visited the museum of the centre. 76th Republic Day was celebrated in the centre.



Dr. V.D. Hegde felicitated as the chief guest in annual social gathering of Kanara E-vision college, Chalmers, Karnataka



Common Albatross *Appias albina* migration at Aralam WLS

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



Ms. Nameeta Prasad, Joint Secretary, MoEFCC addressing in the Seminar on Wetlands Conservation: Challenges and Strategies

A total of 94 species of different faunal communities were identified. Fourteen DNA barcodes including one novel species are uploaded in the NCBI. The scientists and staffs of the centre assisted in Bird Census and Dolphin Census of Chilka Lagoon from 17th to 20th January 2025. The 76th Republic Day was celebrated in the centre.



Celebration of Republic Day

ARUNACHAL PRADESH REGIONAL CENTRE, ITANAGAR, ARUNACHAL PRADESH

A total of 82 species of faunal communities belonging to Hymenoptera, Hemiptera, Lepidoptera, Orthoptera, and Pisces were identified. One new species of cyprinid fish was described. Republic day was celebrated at the centre.



Republic Day celebration



Two days Capacity building training on Biodiversity conservation and its impact on climate change

MARINE AQUARIUM AND REGIONAL CENTRE, DIGHA, WEST BENGAL

A survey tour was conducted to Karnataka and Maharashtra coasts from 12th to 21st January 2025 and two local surveys were conducted to Digha and adjacent areas, West Bengal on 8th and 17th January 2025. A total of 45 species of faunal communities belonging to Mollusca, Polychaeta, Nematoda, Crab, and Pisces were identified. A total of five gDNA and 21 PCR products have been amplified. Two research articles were reviewed by the scientists of the centre. Republic Day was celebrated at the centre on 26th January 2025. A total of 26662 visitors visited the museum of the centre.



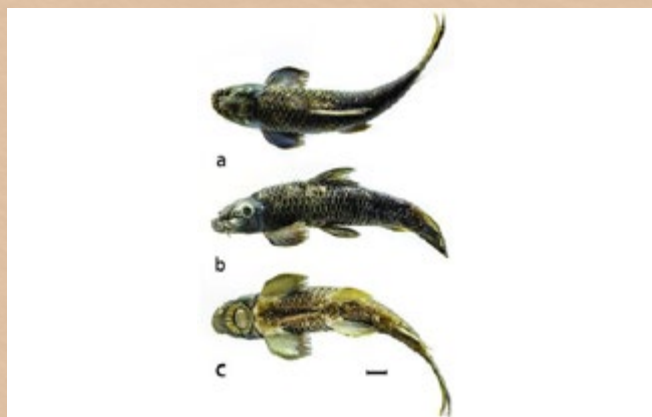
76th Republic Day Celebration



Matri Van programme

NEW DISCOVERIES

NEW SPECIES



Garra magnarostrum Singh, Tudu & Gurumayum, 2024



Hemipsocus mockfordi Ramesh, Babu & Subramanian, 2025



Hemipsocus menoni Ramesh, Babu & Subramanian, 2025



Platybaetis arunachalensis Vasanth, Kubendran, Subramanian & Gattolliat, 2025



Platybaetis uenoi Müller-Liebenau, 1980



Pardosa tuberosa Wang & Zang, 2014

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- Gokul, A. and Mohapatra, S. K. 2024. New Records of Brachyuran Crabs from Odisha Coast. *Indian Journal of Geo-Marine Sciences*, **53**(02): 81-85.
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 24. Sen, D., Deb Roy, S. and Mandal, G.P. 2025. A New Species of the Genus *Crassolabium* Yeates, 1967 (Nematoda: Dorylaimidae: Labronematinae) from India. *Acta Zoologica Bulgarica*, <https://acta-zoologica-bulgarica.eu/2025/002828>.
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 27. Sreeraj, C.R. Sen, A. and Raghunathan, C. 2024. Report of two euryhaline goby fishes (Family: Gobiidae) from Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary, Andhra Pradesh. *Records of Zoological Survey of India*, **124**(3):265-272.
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 30. Walia, G. K., Neeraj, Jyoti, Chopra, D., Devi, A. and Sidhu, A. K. 2025. Butterfly diversity: A preliminary checklist from Punjabi University, Patiala, India. *Munis Entomology & Zoology Turkey*, **20**(1): 1561-1570.

BOOK CHAPTERS

1. Rizvi, A.N. and Maity, P. 2024. Nematoda (Tylenchida, Aphelenchida, Rhabditida, Araeolaimida, Monhysterida, Chromadorida and Alaimida). In: Fauna of Ropar Wetland, Punjab (A Conservation Reserve and RAMSAR site): *Wetland Ecosystem Series*, **23**: 19-42. (Published by the Director, Zoological Survey of India, Kolkata).

POPULAR ARTICLES

1. Prasad, V.K., Shrivastava, A., Nagoji, Patil, R.N., Hiragond, N.C., Suryavanshi, S. and Dinesh, K. P. 2024. Roadside caecilians at risk: habitat management needs in Amboli's Western Ghats. *Froglog*, **30**(1): 17-19.

MEETINGS ATTENDED

1. Dr. Dhriti Banerjee, Director, ZSI, attended a meeting, chaired by the Honorable Minister of State for the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), Govt. of India, virtually on 2nd January 2025 for the preparations for World Wetlands Day 2025 celebrated every year on February 2nd. The progress made regarding the organizing various activities and events planned for the World Wetlands Day 2025 were reviewed and focused on the importance of adhering to the theme of World Wetlands Day 2025: "Protecting wetlands for our common future"; organized a Scrutiny Committee Meeting with ZSI scientists on 6th January 2025 regarding the New Research Proposals for the Annual Programme of Research (2025-26) in a hybrid mode at ZSI Headquarters for discussing innovative approaches to biodiversity conservation and taxonomy, with an emphasis on fostering impactful research initiatives aiming to support high-quality research and strengthen the

institution's role in biodiversity conservation and sustainable development; attended a meeting online to discuss the Standing Finance Committee (SFC) Memo and the presentation to be made to Hon'ble Lt. Governor on 6th January 2025 at Conference Hall, Office of Deputy Commissioner (SA) in hybrid mode; was invited to attend the Annual Review Meeting of the All India Network Project (AINP) on Vertebrate Pest Management held on 8th & 9th January 2025 at the ICAR-Central Arid Zone Research Institute (CAZRI) in Jodhpur; supervised the 2nd Scrutiny Committee Meeting of New Research Proposals for the Annual Programme of Research 2025-26 was conducted at ZSI Hqs on 9th January, 2025 to discuss the proposals supporting ZSI's commitment for innovative approaches to biodiversity conservation and taxonomy; was invited to the inauguration programme of "Digital World Gallery" showcasing the wonders of technology and innovation with AI-regulated experiences and other Augmented Reality (AR)-based exhibits at National Science Centre, Delhi on the occasion of its 33rd anniversary on 9th January 2025; guided the Recreation Club of ZSI to organize Annual Sports Day on 10th January 2025 at Rabindra Sarobar Stadium, Kolkata in presence of distinguished attendees included Dr. C. Raghunathan, Dr. Guru Pada Mandal, Professor Ayaz Shafi, Professor, IQ City United World School of Business, Kolkata, Mr. Sujan Roy, Fitness Coach as a part of "Mission LIFE: Adopt a Healthy Lifestyle"; was invited to attend the 6th Meeting of the Technical-cum-Financial Appraisal Committee (TFAC) on the Environmental Research and Development Programme (ERDP). The meeting was organized from 13th to 14th January 2025 at the Narmada Conference Hall, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), under the chairmanship of Prof. Rup Lal, Department of Zoology, University of Delhi; attended a meeting regarding IUCN National Red Listing Assessment of Indian Flora and Fauna jointly organized by the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) and the Botanical Survey of India (BSI) on 15th January 2025 at BSI, Kolkata; was invited to participate in a symposium titled "Biodiversity & Wetland Conservation" organized as part of the Flamingo Festival 2025, held at Pulicat Lake from 18th to 20th January 2025; visited to the MoEFCC, New Delhi on 20th January, 2025 for the discussion on "Scientific Progress of ZSI" with the officials at MoEFCC; paid floral tribute to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose on his 128th birth anniversary on 23rd January 2025 and remembered his enduring legacy and the courage in the fight for India's independence; attended a meeting with the ZSI scientists on 23rd January 2025 regarding preparation of upcoming ATS 2025; received foreign delegations on 23rd January 2025 at ZSI Hqs from the

Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh (RBGE), Dr. Mark F. Watson, HonFLS, Taxonomy & Macroecology Lead, and Ms. Claire Banks, Botanical Illustrator during their visit to Kolkata to consult the natural history drawings in the Fleming collection and other associated manuscripts for research purpose; was invited to join the International Conference on "Blue Economy: Empowering Sustainable Growth through Marine Ecosystem." organized by the Bhubaneswar City Knowledge Innovation Cluster Foundation (BCKIC) in collaboration with BRIC, Institute of Life Science (ILS), and KIIT University which was held on the 23rd and 24th of January 2025 at KIIT University, Bhubaneswar, Odisha; led the 76th Republic Day celebration at the Kolkata headquarters on 26th January by unfurling the National Flag, felicitating the chief guest Mr. Subrata Banerjee, Pay & Account Officer, Kolkata and presenting awards to staff and scholars, including a Lifetime Achievement Award for Sports and certificates of appreciation for "Tiranga ki Shaan" volunteers and ZSI Sports Day contributors; released the ZSI Annual Report 2023-2024 and launched the Animal Taxonomy Summit (ATS) 2025 website, announcing a 110-hour "Hackathon" on biodiversity conservation which is scheduled to be held on 30th June 2025 in Kolkata; addressed the inaugural session of the Capacity Building programme on "GIS Tools, DNA Barcoding and Forensic studies" during 27th to 31st January 2025 in presence of Chief Guest Prof. Susanta Chakraborty, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Vidyasagar University organized by the Training & Extension Division, Zoological Survey of India, Kolkata; attended a meeting to discuss the pace of expenditure, additional demand of funds, anticipated savings and surrenders with respect to Revised Estimate (R.E.) 2024-25 which was held under the Chairmanship of AS&FA, MoEF&CC with all the concerned Authorities/ Divisional Heads on 29th January 2025 through video conference; chaired the Monthly Progress Monitoring Committee Meeting for the month of January 2025 for both Regional Centres and Headquarters conducted on 30th & 31st January 2025 at ZSI HQs; was invited for the 2nd meeting of the Expert Committee for revalidation of Potential Fishery Resources in Indian EEZ at Fishery Survey of India, Kochangady, Kochi, Kerala held on 30th January 2025; addressed the valedictory session of the Capacity Building Programme on "GIS Tools, DNA Barcoding and Forensic studies" during 27th to 31st January 2025 organized by the Training & Extension Division, Zoological Survey of India, Kolkata;

2. Dr. C. Raghunathan, Scientist-F, ZSI/HQ, Kolkata, attended a meeting with Hon'ble Lt. Governor of Andaman and Nicobar Islands at Sri Vijaya Puram on 7th January 2025 and made a presentation on the ZSI's proposal for Conservation of Coral Reefs

- and Intertidal fauna and NCRRI pertaining to holistic development of Great Nicobar Island; attended a meeting with Chief Secretary, Andaman and Nicobar Islands at Sri Vijaya Puram on 7th January 2025 to discuss about the ZSI's proposal for Conservation of Coral Reefs and Intertidal fauna and NCRRI pertaining to holistic development of Great Nicobar Island; chaired the meeting to screen the research proposals for Annual Programme Research 2025-26 of ZSI on 6th and 9th January 2025; provided inputs for Vision 2030 document for IUCN National Red Listing of Indian Flora and Fauna on 10th January 2025; attended joint meeting of BSI and ZSI at BSI on 15th January 2024 to discuss Vision 2030 document for IUCN National Red Listing of Indian Flora and Fauna; attended meeting with Hon'ble Minister and Secretary, MoEFCC at New Delhi to discuss about the forthcoming projects of ZSI on 20th January 2024; served as an Expert Member in the 42nd meeting of Lakshadweep Coastal Zone Management Authority (LCZMA) on 22nd January 2025 through virtual mode.
3. Dr. Gaurav Sharma, Scientist- F, ZSI/NRC, Dehradun, attended meeting on Evaluation of Working Plan Report 2025-35 of Haldwani Division and Tarai Division of Uttarakhand Forest Department held under the Chairmanship of The PCCF (HoFF), Uttarakhand Forest Department at Van Bhawan, Dehradun on 31st January 2025.
 4. Dr. C. Sivaperuman, Scientist-F, ZSI/ANRC, Sri Vijaya Puram, attended meeting at Raj Niwas under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Lt. Governor, A & N Islands on 7th January 2025; attended the inaugural function of the Domestic Tour Operators of India Andaman Chapters as Guest of Honour on 10th January 2025; attended the annual day function at Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, South Andaman as Guest of Honour on 15th January 2025; attended meeting at office of the Chief Secretary, A & N Islands on 24th January 2025 in connection with the Mitigation of Human Animal Conflicts in A & N Islands; attended the meeting at Directorate of Fisheries, A & N islands on 30th January 2025 in connection with the collection of Blood Clams (*Tegillarca granosa*) from Andaman and Nicobar Islands for the purpose of export.
 5. Dr. V.D. Hegde, Scientist-F, ZSI/WGRC, Kozhikode, Dr. P. S. Bhatnagar, Scientist- E, ZSI/CZRC, Jabalpur, Smt. Ilona J. Kharkongor, Scientist-E, APRC, Itanagar, Dr. J. S. Yogesh Kumar, Scientist-E, ZSI/SbRC, Canning, Dr. S. Balakrishnan, Scientist - E, ZSI/MARC, Digha, Dr. Navneet Singh, Scientist- E, ZSI/HQ Kolkata, Dr. Tamal Mondal, Scientist- D, ZSI/HQ Kolkata participated in the virtual official Discussion Meeting on ATS 2025 and 110 hrs. Hackathon held on the 23rd January 2025.
 6. Dr. Basudev Tripathy, Scientist-E, ZSI/WRC, Pune, participated in the Inception cum Planning Workshop for Management Effectiveness Evaluation (MEE) of 113 Coastal and Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) - 2024-25 on 24th January 2025 at the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun.
 7. Dr. Souvik Sen, Scientist-E, ZSI/HQ, Kolkata, attended the inaugural function of the new gallery 'On the edge?' on 11th January 2025 at Science City, Kolkata; attended a discussion meeting on 'IUCN National Red Listing Assessment of Indian Flora and Fauna' held on 15th January 2025 at Central National Herbarium, Botanical Survey of India, Howrah, West Bengal.
 8. Dr. S. D. Gurumayum, Scientist- E, ZSI/APRC, Itanagar, attended Technical Committee meeting for State Biodiversity strategy and action plan (SBSAP) on 23rd January 2025 at civil secretariat, Itanagar with Member Secretary APBB and other experts from various institute.
 9. Dr. P. S. Bhatnagar, Scientist- E, ZSI/CZRC, Jabalpur, attended the virtual meeting with PCCF (Wildlife), Madhya Pradesh along with Dr. Saipari Sailo, Scientist- D in order to get permission for collection and surveys in protected area under new annual programmes; attended a meeting with Dr. S. S. Sarkar, Deputy Director General, Geological Survey of India on his visit to the Centre and ZSI Museum along with Dr. Sandeep Kushwaha, Scientist- C on 24th January 2025.
 10. Dr. K. P. Dinesh, Scientist -E, ZSI/WRC, Pune, attended two days International Conference on 'Pure and Applied Sciences (IConPAS-2K25) held on 04th and 05th January 2025 jointly organized by Department of Zoology, Sharnbasava University and Sharnbasveshwar College of Science', Kalburgi.
 11. Dr. S. D. Paunikar, Scientist-E, ZSI/CZRC, Jabalpur, attended virtually a National Conference on "Lesser Known Species of Madhya Pradesh" on 17th and 18th January 2025 organised by SNHC India (Society of Nature Healers, Conservators, and Local Tourism Development, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh).
 12. Dr. A. S. Kalawate, Scientist-E, ZSI/WRC, Pune, attended MSBB meeting on 10th January 2025 and provided inputs for evaluating the academic research proposals.
 13. दिनांक 22.01.2025 को डॉ. बासुदेव त्रिपाठी, वैज्ञानिक-ई और प्रभारी अधिकारी, डॉ. अपर्णा एस कलावटे, वैज्ञानिक-ई और डॉ. एस. एस. तलमले, वैज्ञानिक-सी ने राष्ट्रीय रासायनिक प्रयोगशाला, पुणे में एक दिवसीय हिंदी राजभाषा संगोष्ठी एवं पुरस्कार वितरण समारोह में भाग लिया।
 14. Dr. Tamal Mondal, Scientist-D, ZSI/HQ, Kolkata,

attended meetings related to screening of New Annual Programme of Research of ZSI 2025-26 on 6th and 9th January 2025 at ZSI/HQ; served as a selection committee member of a Walk-in-Interview for the recruitment of Research Associated under DST-SERB project on 17th January 2025; attended Inception cum Planning Workshop for Management Effectiveness Evaluation (MEE) of 113 Coastal and Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) - 2024-25 on 24th January 2025 virtually; attended inaugural ceremony of Capacity Building Programme on GIS Tools, DNA Barcoding and Forensic studies on 27th January 2025; provided replies on the parliamentary questions for Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha as and when required.

15. Dr. Muhamed Jafer Palot, Scientist-C, ZSI/WGRC, Kozhikode, attended online meeting of expert committee of Kadalundi- Vallikunnu Community Reserve on 15th January 2025 to discuss the issues related with the Community reserve organised by the Kozhikode Forest Division and the Management Committee of the Kadalundi - Vallikunnu Community Reserve.
16. Dr. Sandeep Kushwaha, Scientist- C, ZSI/CZRC,

Jabalpur, attended meeting with Hindi Rajbhasha prabhari of Jabalpur circle on 16th January 2025.

17. Dr. Atanu Naskar, Scientist- C, ZSI/HQ, Kolkata, attended a discussion on "Scientific Progress of ZSI" at MoEF&CC, New Delhi on 20th January, 2025; served as a member of the interview committee for the recruitment process of project personnel under the NHAI-funded project, 'Long-Term Monitoring of Key Riverine Species in Prayagraj for Conservation and Management in Uttar Pradesh' on 22nd January 2025.
18. Dr. S.S. Talmale, Scientist-C, ZSI/WRC, Pune, attended Annual Group Meeting of "All India Network programme on Vertebrate Pest Management" held on 10th and 11th January 2025 at ICAR- Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur.
19. Dr. Sachin R. Patil, Scientist-B, ZSI/WRC, Pune, attended a Subject Expert meeting of Board of Studies (BoS) in Zoology of SVKM's Mithibai College (Autonomous) Mumbai held on 18th January 2025 in Online Mode.

TRAININGS ORGANIZED

1. ZSI/APRC, Itanagar, organized two days capacity building training on "Biodiversity conservation and its impact on climate change" on 20th and 21st January 2025 in Itanagar along with Botanical Survey of India.
2. ZSI/CZRC, Jabalpur, organized one day workshop on Fossils of upper valley of Narmada River along with Department of Geology, Government Science College, Autonomous, Jabalpur (M.P.) on 15th January, 2025; organized five days Workshop on Taxonomy, Preservation, Museology and Basic Geospatial Technology along with Government Science College, Autonomous, Jabalpur (M.P.) from 20th to 24th January 2025; organized two days Workshop on Taxonomy, Preservation, and Museology jointly organized by and at Vikram University, Ujjain (M.P.) on 27th and 28th January 2025.
3. ZSI/MARC, Digha, organized a one-day seminar on "Techniques in Sampling, Preserving Marine Fauna, and Managing Public Aquariums" was held at the centre on 16th January 2025 for 29 final-year B.Sc., Zoology students and two faculty members from Gurucharan College, Silchar, Assam; organized a One day Workshop on "Collections, preservation and identification of Marine Fauna" for the Higher secondary students and faculty of Sudarsanpur Dwarika Prasad Uchha Vidayachakra, Raiganj, U. Dinajpur on 23rd January 2025 at the centre; organized a training program entitled "Marine Biodiversity and Conservation" for the 10th batch [2023-25] for 18 months of 44 Telangana State Forest Academy, Forest Range Officer Trainees, Telangana State Forest Department, Government of Telangana on 27th January 2025.
4. ZSI/SbRC, Canning, organised a one-day Seminar to the UG final year students from Gurucharan College, Silchar, Assam University on 15th January 2025 at the centre.
5. ZSI/SRC, Chennai, conducted a One-day workshop for young professionals of National Biodiversity Authority on biodiversity and wildlife crime in collaboration with Wildlife Crime Control Bureau, Chennai on 8th January 2025.
6. ZSI/ANRC, Sri Vijay Puram, organized one-day Workshop on the Island Biodiversity including museum visit to the students of Government Middle School, Haddo on 4th January 2025; organized one-day Workshop cum museum exhibition for the students of Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Arong, Car Nicobar on 25th January 2025; organized Capacity Building workshop on Andaman & Nicobar's fauna and sustainable business for students and faculties of Andaman College from diverse backgrounds on 28th January 2025.
7. ZSI/EBRC, Gopalpur, in collaboration with National museum of Natural History organized a Seminar on

Wetlands conservation: Challenges and strategies on 31st January 2025 at Regional museum of Natural History, Bhubaneswar.

8. ZSI/NRC, Dehradun, organized one day Seminar/ Training Workshop organized on “Status of Faunal Diversity and efforts on their Conservation in India” for the 42 Students of Uttaranchal University, Dolphin Institute and Alpine Group of Institutions on 10th January 2025; organized one day hands on training programme, field visit and workshop organized

on “Study of Wetland Waterbirds and counting of Migratory Waterbirds” at Asan Conservation Reserve and Ramsar Site, Uttarakhand to the M. Sc. Zoology Internship Students of Uttaranchal University and Dolphin Institute, Dehradun on 15th January 2025.

9. ZSI/WRC, Pune, organised a Hands-on Training and practical sessions on Mammals and Reptiles for MSC students of Bharati Vidyapeeth, Pune on 23rd January 2025 followed by museum visit.

TRAININGS ATTENDED

1. Dr. S. D. Gurumayum, Scientist -E, ZSI/APRC, Itanagar, attended two days Capacity building training on Biodiversity conservation and its impact on climate change organised by APRC, Botanical Survey of India, Itanagar on 20th and 21st January 2025.
2. Dr. P. S. Bhatnagar, Scientist- E, ZSI/CZRC, Jabalpur, along with all other scientists, officers and technical staffs attended Five days Workshop on Taxonomy, Preservation, Museology and Basic Geospatial Technology Jointly organized by Government Science College, Autonomous, Jabalpur (M.P.) and Central Zone Regional Centre, Zoological Survey of India, Jabalpur (M.P.) from 20th to 24th January 2025.
3. Dr. P. S. Bhatnagar, Scientist- E and Dr. Sandeep Kushwaha, Scientist- C, ZSI/CZRC, Jabalpur, attended two days Workshop on Taxonomy, Preservation, and Museology Jointly organized by and at Vikram University, Ujjain (M.P.) & Central Zone Regional Centre, Zoological Survey of India, Jabalpur (M.P.) on 27th and 28th January 2025.
4. Dr. P. C. Pathania, Scientist-E, ZSI/HARC, Solan, attended online webinar on McGuire Center's “Expanding Horizons in Lepidoptera Research” series talk on the topic entitled, “Convergent evolution of

anti-predatory traits in bombycoid moth” by Paul Masonick, Florida Museum of Natural History on 14th January 2025.

5. Dr. J. S. Yogesh Kumar, Scientist-E, ZSI/SbRC Canning attended Jupyter and Hub QGIS software training entitled “Marine Data 4 Ocean Health” on 29th and 31st January 2025.
6. Dr. Aditya Kapil Valiveti, Scientist - C, ZSI/MARC, Digha, attended a webinar on “Lionfish: An Ocean Tragedy in three acts” organized by NOAA, National Marine Sanctuaries on 14th January 2025; attended a webinar on “Innovative insights: using LDIR for advanced microplastics characterization in India” organized by Agilent Technologies, USA on 24th January 2025; attended a webinar on “Hazardous air pollution analysis with TD-GC_MS to discover benefits of Canister and tube sampling” conducted by Separation Science on 28th January 2025.
7. Mr. M. K. Meena, Scientist-B, Mrs. Purbita Roy Sharma, Mrs. Jyoti Verma and Mrs. Maya Choudhary, Sr. Zool. Asstt., ZSI/NRC, Dehradun, attended one day Seminar on “Status of Faunal Diversity and efforts on their Conservation in India” organized by ZSI, NRC, Dehradun on 10th January, 2025.

LECTURES DELIVERED

1. Dr. C. Sivaperuman, Scientist-F, ZSI/ANRC, Sri Vijay Puram, delivered a talk on “an overview of Biodiversity of Andaman & Nicobar Islands & Biodiversity of Antarctica” to the students of Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Car Nicobar on 25th January 2025.
2. Dr. Gaurav Sharma, Scientist-F, ZSI/NRC, Dehradun, delivered lecture on topic entitled “Status of Faunal Diversity, efforts on Wildlife Conservation and Management in India” to the 34 students of Department of Zoology, Mumbai College, Maharashtra in the Conference Hall of ZSI, NRC, Dehradun on 10th January 2025; delivered a lecture on topic entitled “Mammalian Diversity and efforts

on their Conservation in India” to 42 students of Uttaranchal University, Dolphin Institute and Alpine Group Of Institutions, Dehradun” in the Conference Room of ZSI, NRC, Dehradun on 10th January 2025 and delivered an invited Guest Lecture in the “International Seminar on Current Environmental Issues for Sustainable Circular Economic Strategies and Fisheries Development for a Greener Tomorrow” on the topic entitled “Status of Mammals and efforts on their Conservation in India” organized by Gurukul Kangri University and Indian Academy of Environmental Sciences, Haridwar on 28th January 2025.

3. Dr. K. A. Subramanian, Scientist-F, ZSI/SRC, Chennai,

delivered an invited lecture at international conference organized by University of Madras on "Climate Change and Insect Decline" on 23rd January 2025.

4. Dr. Narender Sharma, Scientist-F, ZSI/NRC, Dehradun, delivered lecture on "Collection, Preservation and Identification of Insects" was delivered to 42 students of Uttaranchal University, Dolphin Institute and Alpine Group of Institutions, Dehradun" in the Conference Room of ZSI, NRC, Dehradun on 10th January 2025.
5. Dr. V.D. Hegde, Scientist-F, ZSI/WGRC, Kozhikode, delivered a talk as the Chief Guest in Annual Social Gathering of Kanara E-vision Science and Commerce College, Chalagere, Haveri, Karnataka on 10th January 2025.
6. Dr. P. S. Bhatnagar, Scientist-E, ZSI/CZRC, Jabalpur, delivered a lecture to the Introductory lecture on ZSI and Wildlife conflict FRO of Chhattisgarh Cadre under the Training program at ZSI, CZRC Jabalpur on 06th January 2025; delivered a lecture on "Basic concepts of taxonomy" during the Five-day workshop on 20th January 2025 at Govt. Science college, Jabalpur; delivered a lecture on "Basic concepts of taxonomy" during the Two-day workshop on 27th January 2025 at Vikram University, Ujjain.
7. Dr. S. D. Paunikar, Scientist-E, ZSI/CZRC, Jabalpur, delivered a lecture on "Moth: Collection, Preservation and Identification" during the Five-day workshop on 21st January 2025 at Govt. Science College, Jabalpur.
8. Dr. S. Balakrishnan, Scientist - E, ZSI/MARC, Digha, delivered a lecture on "Marine Biodiversity and Conservation" organized by ZSI, MARC, Digha on 27th January 2025 to the 10th batch [2023-25] for 18 months of 44 Telangana State Forest Academy, Forest Range Officer Trainees, Telangana State Forest Department, Government of Telangana, Dulapally, Hyderabad - 500 100.
9. Dr. J. S. Yogesh Kumar, Scientist-E, ZSI/SbRC, Canning, delivered a lecture on topic entitled "Marine biodiversity" to the UG final year students from Gurucharan College, Silchar, Assam University in ZSI-SbRC, Office, Canning, West Bengal on 15th January 2025.
10. Dr. D.S. Suman, Scientist-E, ZSI/EBRC, Gopalpur, had delivered a lecture on "Proactive surveillance of mosquito vectors for the early detection of infectious pathogens: Prevention is better than cure" at the National Seminar on Emerging Infectious Diseases and Human Health at Vivekananda College of Arts and Science for Women (Autonomous), Thiruchengodu, Tamil Nadu on 7th and 8th January 2025; delivered invited talk on "Mosquito sounds: a novel way for identification and surveillance of mosquitoes" at National Conference on Frontiers in Biological Sciences: Research & Innovations" on 21st January 2025 at P. G. Department of Zoology, Berhampur University, Berhampur, Ganjam, Odisha.
11. Dr. Anil Mohapatra, Scientist-E, ZSI/EBRC, Gopalpur, had delivered a talk on "Describing new species (With special reference to marine fish): Discovery and Challenges" in the Teacher Training Program organized by CHSE at Centurion University of Technology and Management, Bhubaneswar on 30th January 2025; delivered a talk on "Faunal Diversity of Ramsar Wetland: Conservation and Challenges" in the collaborative seminar on Wetlands conservation: Challenges and strategies on 31st January 2025, organised jointly by National museum of Natural History and Zoological Survey of India at Regional museum of Natural History, Bhubaneswar.
12. Dr. Navneet Singh, Scientist E, ZSI/HQ, Kolkata, delivered one invited talk on "Pollen transportation by moths (Lepidoptera): updates from Indian Himalaya" in a webinar titled 'Recent Advances in Forest Entomology and Pathology' on 30th January 2025, organized by the Forest Protection Division, FRI, Dehradun.
13. Dr. N. Marimuthu, Scientist E, ZSI/HQ, Kolkata, has given an invited talk entitled, "Advancement of Research tools and career opportunities in Bio-Sciences" at Vivekanandha Arts and Science College for Women, Sankari, Salem, Tamil Nadu on 21st January 2025.
14. Dr. K. P. Dinesh, Scientist -E, ZSI/WRC, Pune, delivered a lead talk on the topic "Amphibian Diversity in India and their Conservation Status" in two days International Conference on 'Pure and Applied Sciences (IConPAS-2K25) held on 04th and 05th January 2025 jointly organised by Department of Zoology, Sharnbasava University and Sharnbasveshwar College of Science', Kalburgi.
15. Dr. Saipari Sailo, Scientist-D, ZSI/CZRC, Jabalpur, delivered a lecture on Taxonomy and development of Amphibians during the Five-day workshop on 20th January 2025 at Govt. Science College, Jabalpur.
16. Dr. P.C. Tudu, Scientist - D, ZSI/MARC, Digha, delivered a talk on the "Marine fauna of Digha: Diversity and Threats" to the B.Sc., students from Gurucharan College, Silchar, Assam on 16th January 2025.
17. Dr. Muhamed Jafer Palot, Scientist-C, ZSI/WGRC, Kozhikode, delivered a lecture on "25 years of butterfly study of Aralam WLS- An overview" at the inaugural meeting of 25th year of butterfly survey of Aralam WLS on 10th January 2025 organized by the

Kerala Forests & Wildlife Department in association with Malabar Natural History Society; delivered a talk on “Indian Wildlife Protection Act and the Faunal wealth of Kerala” at the National Seminar on “Invasives and Habitat Loss: A Threat to the Biodiversity of Kerala” on 17th January 2025 organised by the National Institute of Plant Science Technology, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam, Kerala in association with Kerala State Biodiversity Board.

18. Dr. Sandeep Kushwaha, Scientist-C, ZSI/CZRC, Jabalpur, delivered a lecture on Museology to the students and faculty of PG College Jabalpur on 04th January 2025; delivered a lecture on dry preservation to the FRO of Chhattisgarh Cadre under the Training program at Zoological Survey of India central Zone Regional Centre Jabalpur Madhya Pradesh on 06th January 2025; delivered a lecture on “collection, preservation and identification of animals found in India & taxidermy” during the two day workshop on 27th January 2025 at Vikram University, Ujjain.
19. Dr. Prabhakar Rai, Scientist-C, ZSI/SbRC, Canning, delivered a lecture on topic entitled “*Ganga Gap and Lockdown*” to the UG final year students from Gurucharan College, Silchar, Assam University in ZSI-SbRC, Office, Canning, West Bengal on 15th January 2025.
20. Dr. S.S. Talmale, Scientist-C, ZSI/WRC, Pune, delivered a lecture and practical demonstration on “collection, preservation and identification of small mammals” to the M. Sc. Wildlife Conservation Action students of Bharati Vidyapeeth, Pune on 23rd January 2025.
21. Dr. Aditya Kapil Valiveti, Scientist - C, ZSI/MARC, Digha, delivered a lecture on “Techniques in

sampling, preserving marine fauna, and managing public aquarium” To the B.Sc., Zoology students and two faculty members from Gurucharan College, Silchar, Assam on 16th January 2025; delivered a talk on “Collection, preservation, and identification of marine fauna,” at Sudarsanpur Dwarika Prasad Uchha Vidayachakra, Raiganj, U. Dinajpur on 23rd January 2025.

22. Mrs. Pallabi Priyadarsini, Assistant Zoologist, ZSI/CZRC, Jabalpur, delivered a lecture on Freshwater molluscs of M.P during the Five-day workshop on 21st January 2025 at Govt. Science college, Jabalpur; delivered a lecture on Freshwater molluscs of M.P and demonstrated microscopic study of Mantodea to BSc. 4th year students and MSc. Students from Shahdol university and Sagar University for their internship study.
23. Mr. Akhil Nair, Assistant Zoologist, ZSI/CZRC, Jabalpur, delivered a lecture on Lepidoptera (Butterfly) during the Five-day workshop on 21st January 2025 at Govt. Science college, Jabalpur.
24. Dr. S. K. Pati, Assistant Zoologist, ZSI/WRC, Pune, delivered a guest lecture on “Animal Taxonomy and Career Opportunities in Zoology” for the B.Sc. students of Dr. D.Y. Patil Arts, Commerce & Science College, Pimpri, Pune, as a resource person on 03rd January 2025.
25. Mrs. Akriti Singh, Senior Zoological Assistant, ZSI/CZRC, Jabalpur, explained & demonstrated the procedures of Collection and preservation techniques of various faunal groups during the Five-day workshop on 22nd January 2025 at Govt. Science college, Jabalpur.

PHOTO GALLERY



Dr. Dhriti Banerjee, DZSI paying floral tribute to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose on his Birth Anniversary on 23rd January 2025



Dr. Dhriti Banerjee, Director of ZSI with all ZSI scientists and staff paid tribute to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose on his 128th birth anniversary on January 23, 2025



Release of ZSI Annual Report 2023- 2024



Felicitation of Shri Deepak Kumar Roy, Retired ZSI Employee for his success in National and State Athletics



Celebration of 76th Republic Day



Group photo on the occasion of 76th Republic Day



Felicitation of Mr. Subrata Banerjee, Pay & Account Officer, Kolkata



Launch of ATS 2025 website



Launch of Hackathon website of 110 hours for new ideas related to Conservation of Biodiversity



Felicitation of Prof. Susanta Chakraborty, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Vidyasagar University during inaugural session of the Capacity Building Programme on "GIS Tools, DNA Barcoding and Forensic studies"



Group photo during inaugural session of the Capacity Building Programme on “GIS Tools, DNA Barcoding and Forensic studies” during 27th - 31st January 2025 organized by the Training & Extension Division, Zoological Survey of India, Kolkata



Valedictory session of the Capacity Building Programme on “GIS Tools, DNA Barcoding and Forensic studies “during 27th - 31st January 2025 organized by the T&E Division, Zoological Survey of India, Kolkata



Director ZSI along with Dr. C. Raghunathan, Additional Director met with Mr. Tanmay Kumar, Secretary (MoEF&CC) and presented him ZSI Diary and Calendar 2025 during her visit to the ministry on 20th January 2025



Dr. Dhriti Banerjee, Director of ZSI received foreign delegations at ZSI HQs from the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh (RBGE), Dr. Mark F. Watson HonFLS, Taxonomy & Macroecology Lead, and Ms. Claire Banks, Botanical Illustrator during their visit to Kolkata for research purpose