



Harmal Panchakroshi Shikshan Mandal's
Ganpat Parsekar College Of Education
Vidya Sankul, Bhom Plateau, Harmal - Goa
(Affiliated to Goa University, Recognised by NCTE)
Recognised under Section 2(f) of the UGC Act, 1956

CONSOLIDATED REPORT – DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY

1) Online Poster Competition on Save Tiger:

To mark International Tiger Day on 29th July 2024, the Nature Club, in collaboration with the Department of Zoology, organized an online poster-making competition on the theme “*Save Tiger*”. The event aimed to raise awareness among students about tiger conservation and the growing threats to their survival, including habitat loss, human-wildlife conflict, and poaching. Open to all students of Ganpat Parsekar College of Education, the competition received enthusiastic participation, with 10 students showcasing their creativity and concern through powerful visual messages.

The 1st Prize was awarded to Anushka Tendulkar (SY B.Sc. B.Ed), while Dakshaja Malik secured the 2nd Prize, and Rushikesh Amonkar won the 3rd Prize. The entries were judged by Mr. Pritesh Naik, Assistant Professor, Department of Education.

Winners were felicitated with certificates and prizes. The event was coordinated by Ms. Karishma K. Naik, Assistant Professor in Zoology and Convenor of the Nature Club. The competition served as an engaging platform to inspire students towards wildlife conservation and environmental responsibility.

2) Talk on Vermiculture and Natural Farming:

The department of Zoology organized an awareness programme on “Vermiculture and Natural Farming” on 30th August 2024. The resource person for the session was Mr. Dheeraj Parab, Assistant Agriculture officer, ZAO Pernem. The coordinator for the programme was Dr. Kunja Priolkar.

3) ‘Wilderness 7.0’ – Departmental event

The Zoology Department hosted All Goa intercollegiate event ‘Wilderness 7.0’ on 4th October 2024, bringing together students from seven different colleges for a day filled with exciting on-stage and off-stage competitions centered around nature, wildlife, and conservation. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation, creativity, and teamwork as students competed in

treasure hunt, poster-making, debates, and more. After a thrilling series of events, Carmel College emerged as the overall winner, bagging the 1st Prize. 'Wilderness' proved to be not just a platform for healthy competition, but also a space to spread awareness about biodiversity and environmental consciousness.

4) Participation in Quiz competition:

Ms. Siddhi Chari and Mr. Neil Fernandes, students from Fo. Y. B.Sc. B.Ed. bagged 2nd prize in Quiz competition held at Chowgule College, organized by the Goa Forest Department on the occasion of 73rd Wildlife Week, 2024 on 5th October 2024. This showcased their knowledge and creativity in topics related to environment and biodiversity.

5) Field Trip to Chorla Ghats:

On 20th October 2024, the TY and Fo.Y B.Sc. B.Ed. Zoology students embarked on an exciting and educational field trip to the Chorla Ghats, where they experienced the rich biodiversity of the Western Ghats through a bird walk and a plateau walk. The trip offered students an immersive experience in field-based learning, allowing them to observe flora and fauna in their natural habitat.

The group was accompanied by faculty members Ms. Kavitha Nair and Ms. Karishma Naik, who guided and supported students throughout the day. Expert insights were provided by resource persons Mr. Mayur and Mr. Saeish, who shared their extensive knowledge on bird identification, ecological importance of plateaus, and conservation challenges in the region.

From spotting endemic bird species during the serene morning bird walk to discovering the unique ecology of the lateritic plateau, the trip proved to be a perfect blend of adventure, observation, and learning.

6) Educational Tour to Agumbe and Manipal

Students of TY and Fourth Year B.Sc. B.Ed. Zoology on 21st November 2024 embarked on a memorable educational tour to Manipal and Agumbe, blending academic enrichment with the exploration of nature's wonders. The tour was designed to provide students with experiential learning beyond the classroom, and it certainly delivered.

In Manipal, students visited the Manipal Museum of Anatomy and Pathology, one of the largest of its kind in Asia. The museum offered a fascinating insight into human anatomy and comparative zoology, sparking curiosity and academic discussion among the budding zoologists.

The journey continued to the lush rainforests of Agumbe, known as the "Cherrapunji of the South" and a biodiversity hotspot in the Western Ghats. Surrounded by natural beauty, students experienced the serenity of the forest, witnessed the rich flora and fauna, and appreciated the importance of rainforest conservation.

The group was guided and supported throughout by faculty members Ms. Kavitha Nair and Ms. Karishma Naik, making the trip both safe and insightful. The tour left students with unforgettable memories, a deeper love for nature, and a renewed passion for their subject.

7) Guest Session on Fish Identification by ICAR Scientist – Dr. Sreekanth G.B.

Zoology department had organized an expert session on fish identification featuring Dr. Sreekanth G.B, a distinguished scientist from ICAR (Indian Council of Agricultural Research). The session was specially organized to support the TY BSc Zoology project focused on fish biodiversity session was scheduled on 7th January 2025 at zoology laboratory, offering valuable insights into current research and developments in the field of agricultural and fishery sciences. The interactive session provided valuable insights into scientific methods of species identification and classification, significantly enriching the students' understanding and research capabilities. Such interactions play a key role in broadening the academic horizon and inspiring young minds towards research-oriented careers. The session was coordinated by Ms kavitha Nair.

8) Visit to Aqua Goa – Mega Fish Festival 2024-25

As part of experiential learning and exposure to applied zoological sciences, 29 students from S.Y. BSc B.Ed were attended the *Aqua Goa – Mega Fish Festival 2024-25* on 12th January 2025 at Campal Ground, Panjim. The students were accompanied by Ms. Karishma K. Naik

Organized by the Directorate of Fisheries, Government of Goa, this three-day event (10th–12th January) featured exhibitions, competitions, workshops, seminars, and interactive stalls focused on fisheries and aquatic biodiversity. The visit aimed to enhance students' understanding of fishery science, sustainable practices, and local aquatic resources—offering them a unique opportunity to learn beyond the classroom. Such participatory events play a vital role in bridging theoretical knowledge with practical insights, especially for students pursuing zoology and environmental sciences.

9) Participation in Digital poster making competition:

Mr. Rishikesh Amonkar, a student of S.Y. BSc B.Ed secured 3rd place in the Digital poster making competition organized by the Directorate of Fisheries, Government of Goa. The competition was a highlight of the Aqua Goa Fish Festival 2025 from 10th -12th January 2025, in which students from the college actively participated.

10) Students to Participate in the 8th Bird Festival of Goa

In line with the college's commitment to promoting environmental awareness and wildlife education, four students from S.Y. B.Sc. B.Ed had attended the 8th Bird Festival of Goa, scheduled from 17th to 19th January 2025 at Cotigao Wildlife Sanctuary, Canacona. The students were accompanied by Ms. Roshmi Shetkar.

Organized by the Goa Forest Department, this annual festival offers bird-watching trails, expert talks, nature walks, and interactive sessions with ornithologists and conservationists. Participation in this event had provided students with valuable field experience and deepened their understanding of avian biodiversity and conservation practices. The students representing the college were: Ms. Sahili Gawas, Ms. Saniya Gawas, Ms. Sonika Khot and Ms. Gayetri Gaonkar

11) One-day workshop on “Ornamental fish culture”:

Department of Zoology had organized One-day workshop for the students and faculty of Harmal Panchakroshi Shikshan Mandal to enhance their understanding of Ornamental fish culture on 28th January 2025. The event featured expert sessions by officials from the Department of Fisheries, including Dr. Hrishikesh Pawar (Scientist) and Mr. Chandrakant Velip (Deputy Director of Fisheries). The program will combine classroom-based learning with hands-on training in the Zoology Laboratory, offering participants both theoretical knowledge and practical skills in Ornamental fish keeping and fabrication of aquarium tanks. Total 40 participants participated in the programme. Coordinator for the Programme was Ms. Karishma K. Naik

12) Talk on Waste Management: A Step towards a Sustainable Future

On 24th February 2025, the Nature Club in collaboration with the Department of Zoology organized an insightful talk on Waste Management for the students of the college. The session was conducted by Mr. Samruddh Hegde Dessai, founder and partner at *Alterenergy*, a firm dedicated to sustainable solutions and environmental conservation. The coordinator of the programme was Ms. Karishma Naik, Convenor of the Nature club.

Addressing students from various streams, Mr. Dessai highlighted the urgent need for responsible waste disposal and introduced innovative, practical approaches to manage waste efficiently at the individual and community level. He also shared real-life success stories and sustainable alternatives, inspiring students to adopt eco-friendly habits in their daily lives.

The talk was not only informative but also thought-provoking, sparking meaningful discussions and reinforcing the importance of youth participation in environmental stewardship. It marked yet another step by the institution towards promoting sustainability and environmental awareness on campus.

13) A Day in the Wild: Field Trip to Nanode, Valpoi:

On 9th March 2025, the F.Y and S.Y B.Sc.B.Ed. Zoology students embarked on an enriching field trip to the Mhadei Wildlife Sanctuary, Nanode, Valpoi. Organized by the Department of Zoology, the full-day excursion offered students an immersive experience in nature and wildlife exploration. Accompanied by faculty members Dr. Kunja Priolkar and Ms. Karishma Naik, the group was guided by esteemed wildlife expert Dr. Devidas Kotkar, whose vast knowledge

brought the wilderness to life. The day began with a scenic forest trek where students observed a variety of insects, birds, and plant life in their natural habitat.

A special highlight of the trip was the visit to two sacred groves—Nirankarachi Rai and Ajobachi Rai—where Dr. Kotkar detailed their ecological and cultural significance. His engaging session on bonsai techniques further added a unique dimension to the learning experience.

14) Value added course: “Ornamental Fish Keeping”

The Department of Zoology successfully conducted a short-term certificate course on *Ornamental Fish Keeping*, aimed at providing hands-on knowledge and skills in the care, breeding, and maintenance of ornamental fish. The course, coordinated by Ms. Karishma Naik, received an enthusiastic response from students, with 13 participants completing the program. The course combined theoretical sessions with practical demonstrations, equipping students with valuable insights into aquarium management, fish health, and the growing scope of ornamental fish trade. Such initiatives continue to enrich students' academic experience and open up new avenues in applied zoology.