



# Goa University


## School of Biological Sciences and Biotechnology


### Report on a Field trip to Ambolim on 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> September 2024

<b>1. Title of the Event/Activity/program</b>	Field trip to Ambolim
<b>2. Date and Time</b>	28 <sup>th</sup> and 29 <sup>th</sup> September 2024
<b>3. Mode of conduct (Physical/Online)</b>	Physical
<b>4. School/ Directorate/ Section</b>	School of Biological Sciences and Biotechnology, Zoology
<b>5. Collaborating Agency/School/Directorate</b>	—
<b>6. Detail of the Resource Person (Brief biodata)</b>	—
<b>7. Number of Faculty attended/participated</b>	4 faculty
<b>8. Number of Student attended / participated</b>	14 students of Zoology
<b>9. No. of external students/faculty/other participants</b>	--
<b>10. The objectives of the Program/activity/event</b>	<p>The field trip was organized to provide students with hands-on experience in Herpetology and Mammalogy, allowing them to engage directly with the diverse flora and fauna of an ecotourism site. This experiential learning is essential for several reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Students can observe and explore the faunal diversity of the selected area, bridging the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical application.</li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The trip offers a unique opportunity to examine and implement various field methodologies, equipping students with essential skills for their future careers.</li> <li>• By immersing themselves in a natural setting, students will develop a deeper appreciation for biodiversity and the importance of conservation efforts.</li> <li>• Experiencing biology in a novel environment can inspire students and enhance their motivation to pursue studies in the life sciences.</li> </ul>
<p><b>11. Description of the Program/activity/event</b></p>	<p>A field trip was conducted for MSc Semester III Zoology students on September 28 and 29, 2024, focusing on Herpetology and Mammalogy. Fourteen students, accompanied by Dr. Nitin Sawant, Dr. Preeti Pereira, Ms. Gandhita Kundaikar, and Dr. Shamshad Shaikh, visited Chokul village, Mahadevgad, Hiranyakeshi, and Kavlesaad in Amboli to study the impact of ecotourism on the environment.</p> <p>The students received a briefing on the effects of heavy traffic in ecologically sensitive areas, particularly the concerning issue of roadkill. Additionally, they attended a talk by Mr. Hemant Oagle, an entrepreneur from Whistling Woods and author of the "Book of Indian Butterflies," who shared insights on the butterfly diversity of the Western Ghats and discussed sustainable ecotourism practices adopted by his venture.</p> <p>During the trip, the students had the opportunity to witness the blooming of <i>Karvi</i> (<i>Strobilanthes kunthiana</i>) on the plateau, a spectacular event that occurs only once every seven years, alongside various species of ground orchids. They also observed the endemic Hiranyakeshi loach, enriching their understanding of local biodiversity. Night trails allowed them to spot local fauna such as the Amboli toad, Malabar pit viper, green vine snake, Tiger centipede, Fresh water eel and</p>

	crabs, Tarantula, and gerbils. This hands-on experience significantly enhanced their understanding of the delicate balance between ecotourism and environmental conservation.
<b>12. Benefit/Key outcomes of the Program/activity/event</b>	Throughout the trip, the students had the opportunity to observe several animals that are rarely seen in other areas. They learned various field-based methods for identifying different species and recorded both direct and indirect evidence of wildlife. Additionally, they studied the impact of ecotourism on the local flora and fauna. To deepen their experience, they were advised to create an inventory of all the fauna and flora encountered along the trails, enhancing their fieldwork skills and understanding of biodiversity.
<b>13. Enclosures with report</b>	Geo-tag photos are attached.

Signature:   
Name of coordinator Dr. Nitin Sawant  
Designation: Assistant Professor  
Date: 30-Sep-2024

Signature   
30/9/24  
Dean/Director/Head Prof. B.F. Rodrigues  
Seal of the School/Directorate/University  
Dean of School of Biological Sciences  
& Biotechnology  
Goa University, Goa-403206






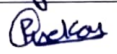






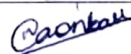

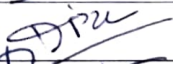
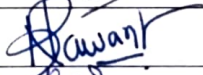










Attendance for Practical Based Field Trip to Ambolim  
28-29 September, 2024  
MSc Zoology  
School of Biological Sciences and Biotechnology,  
Goa University

Sr. No.	Name	Signature
1.	Aydan Rangel	
2.	Akshata Malwankar	
3.	Bipana K.C.	
4.	Nikita Fernandes	
5.	Khushi S. Gadkar	
6.	Prerna K. Pednekar	
7.	Sakshi S. Naik	
8.	Sweta Bhosle	
9.	Velip Anisha Ramesh	
10.	Harshvardhan Naik	
11.	Blusha Fernandes	
12.	Shilpa Velip	
13.	Neha Gaonkar	
14.	Divya Falkar	
15.	Dipak Bowalkar	
16.	Dr. Nitin Sawant	
17.	Dr. Shamshad Shaikh	
18.	Ms. Gandhita Kundaikar	
19.	Dr. Preeti Pereira	