



## WHAT'S BUZZING AT THE DEPARTMENT...

### **EDITORIAL'S NOTE:** **Revolutionizing learning experience using AI**



In the 21st century, Artificial Intelligence (AI) has played a critical role in revolutionizing learning experience. With the advent of ChatGPT, a powerful generative AI tool, we can now extract information pertaining to any subject within a few seconds. While, this may increase the dependence on AI, and negatively impact creativity and critical thinking abilities, AI can be maneuvered in an optimistic way by the user, to enhance learning experience. For instance, a classroom comprises of students with different pace of learning abilities. With the right use of AI, each student can learn concepts at their own speed, identify their strengths and weaknesses and experience personalized learning. Instead of being demotivated in a competitive classroom, students can always go back and review the concepts at their own pace. AI Tools like Grammarly & Paperpal, can also help review your work and enhance your grammar and vocabulary in a few seconds. Once you have written the manuscript, these tools can quickly cross check your grammatical mistakes and improve your language. In the near future, we will surely be able to unlock new dimensions of learning through the integration of AI in our education.

- Ms. Neeha Sinai Borker, Asst. Prof., Department of Zoology

### **INTERESTING FACT !**

⇒ Tardigrades, were the first animals, known to survive the direct exposure to space. Despite enduring the vacuum conditions and radiation, they managed to successfully survive and return back to Earth !



**"YOUR ATTITUDE IS AN  
EXPRESSION OF YOUR VALUES,  
BELIEFS AND EXPECTATIONS"  
- BRIAN TRACY**

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## **WORLD MANGROVE DAY CELEBRATION**



The Department of Zoology of Parvatibai Chowgule College, in Association with the Mangrove Society of India, celebrated 'World Mangrove Day' on Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> July 2023 in the Zoology laboratory. Being a coastal state, Goa is blessed with abundant Mangrove cover, which is gradually facing threats on account of anthropogenic activities. To commemorate the occasion, Prof. Dr. Nandini Vaz Fernandes, Head of Department of Zoology, delivered a lecture on "Avifauna Associated with Mangroves" which emphasised on the birds found in Mangroves, as well as their interaction with the ecosystem. The students were also made aware of the ecological value of mangroves and the need for their conservation. In this regard, E-poster, poem-writing and photography competitions were also organized for the students to celebrate mangrove biodiversity.



### **DID YOU KNOW ?**

Goa is a home to two species of otters: The smooth-coated otter (*Lutrogale perspicillata*) found in the estuarine habitat and the Asian small-clawed otter (*Aonyx cinereus*) found in the freshwater streams of Western Ghats.



Smooth-coated otter  
(*Lutrogale perspicillata*)



Asian small-clawed otter  
(*Aonyx cinereus*)

## **CHOWGULE BIRDER'S CLUB ACTIVITIES**



The Chowgule Birder's Club (CBC) of the Department of Zoology, Parvatibai Chowgule College, organised its first session this year, on Friday, 18th August 2023, in the Zoology Laboratory. Ms. Filomena Pereira, Assistant Professor, Department of Zoology, briefed the students about the club and the birding activities. The selection of student coordinators for CBC was also finalised. This club organizes activities to document and study the avifauna present in the Chowgule college campus.



### **FIRST BIRD WALK !**



The Chowgule Birder's Club (CBC) of Department of Zoology, conducted its first bird walk in the Parvatibai Chowgule College campus on Tuesday, 29th August 2023. Twenty CBC members and the Zoology faculty attended the bird walk. A total of 32 bird species were recorded in the college campus, including few memorable sightings like Rufous woodpecker, Pied cuckoo and White-cheeked fulvetta .







**"THE JOY OF REACHING THE SUMMIT  
IS WORTH EVERY STEP OF THE CLIMB"  
- HERBERT A. SIMON**

## **TRAINING PROGRAM: GOA BIRD ATLAS**



Students and faculty members from the Department of Zoology attended a training program on 'Goa Bird Atlas Initiative' organized by Arranya Environment Research Organisation (AERO) on Thursday, 9th August 2023, in



the lower auditorium at Parvatibai Chowgule College. Goa Bird Atlas is a one-year initiative to

study the distribution and abundance of avifauna in Goa. The event was addressed by Dr. Pronoy Baidya, who introduced the objectives of this initiative and Mr. Jalmesh



Karapurkar, who explained the protocols for conducting bird walks for the Goa Bird Atlas.

## **STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS**

⇒ Ms. Jannelli Antao, from F.Y.B.Sc Zoology, secured '**third place**' for Poster competition, organised



by the Department of Geography, on of World Population Day, held on 11th July 2023.

## **FRESHER'S PARTY**



The Department of Zoology organized a fresher's party for the students of F.Y.B.Sc. Zoology batch 2023-2024



on Friday, 1st September 2023. Numerous games and activities were held to welcome

these youngsters. Mr. Siddhant Nair won Mr. Fresher's title and Ms. Sheryanne D'Souza won the Ms. Fresher's title. We extend our warmest welcome to these bright & talented minds.



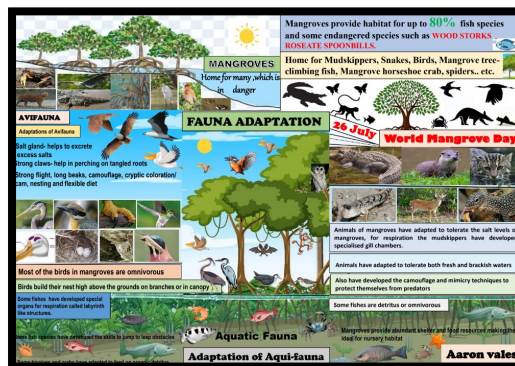
## **WINNERS OF MANGROVE DAY CELEBRATION !**

⇒ **Winners of the E-poster competition**, with the theme 'Faunal adaptations in Mangrove Ecosystem'

1. **First Place: Mr. Aaron Vales**
2. **Second Place: Ms. Elita Valanka Siqueira**
3. **Third Place: Ms. Shreya Prashant Borkar**

⇒ **Winners of the Poem- writing competition** with the theme 'Mangrove Ecosystem'

1. **First Place: Mr. Aaron Vales**
2. **Second Place: Mr. Om Giri Kurpaskar**
3. **Third Place: Ms. Monika Mahto**



**ANIMAL CROSS WORD**

Find as many words as possible.

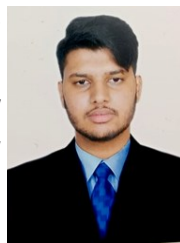
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S	E	V	A	O	K	C	E	G

**THOUGHTS OF BUDDING ZOOLOGISTS****Ms. JANNELI ANTAO (F.Y.B.Sc. Zoology student)**

- The Department of Zoology is a place where one understands the concept of life rather than just memorizing and mugging up scientific names and habits. Firstly, our professors are always there to guide us during difficult situations regarding the subject, as well as personal problems. They assist whenever needed. Secondly, our department conducts trails and field trips to put our theoretical knowledge into use. Our First Year Zoology batch, has had many interesting bird trails which helped us understand the morphology and call of distinctive birds. Thirdly, our seniors are quite approachable and involve us in activities organized by them. They never leave us out of anything fun they do.

**Mr. SIDDHANT NAIR (F.Y.B.Sc. Zoology student)**

- The most enjoyable part of the Zoology Department is the diversity of the topics. It's not a subject where we sit stationary and study like Robots but rather we observe and learn like any good science field should be. The club conducts enjoyable activities like bird walks where we get to enjoy the most majestic organisms of earth, the Birds. I have no regrets for choosing Zoology. I love my Department.

**QUIZ**

In view of the International Tiger Day celebration in July, let us test our knowledge related to tigers by attempting the following quiz:-

1. Which country hosts the largest population of tigers in the world?

- A. China B. Bangladesh  
C. India D. Japan

2. Where was the first Global Tiger Summit held?

- A. Russia B. Sri Lanka  
C. Japan D. Vietnam

3. In which year was the "Project Tiger" launched in India?

- A. 1970 B. 1971  
C. 1972 D. 1973

4. In which state is the Sariska Tiger Reserve situated in India?

- A. Madhya Pradesh B. West Bengal  
C. Gujarat D. Rajasthan

5. Name the notorious tiger poacher, who was responsible for wiping out the entire population of tigers in Sariska Tiger Reserve.

6. A crossbreed between a male lion and a female tiger gives rise to a hybrid cat called

- A. Tigon B. Dolly  
C. Liger D. Mule

7. When is International Tiger Day celebrated?

- A. 2nd April B. 29th July  
C. 25th July D. 2nd September

8. Which state is called "Tiger state of India"?

- A. Madhya Pradesh B. West Bengal  
C. Gujarat D. Rajasthan

Answers: 1- India, 2- Russia, 3- 1973, 4- Rajasthan, 5- Sansar Chand, 6- Liger, 7- 29th July, 8- Madhya Pradesh

**EDITORIAL BOARD: Department of Zoology****DISCLAIMER**

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