



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

### FACULTY AS RESOURCE PERSON

Dr. Nandini Vaz Fernandes, was invited as a resource person for a State level webinar on “Importance of Microbiology in Genetic Diagnosis” organised by Department of Microbiology of Govt. College of Arts, Science & Commerce, Khandola, Goa. The webinar was held in virtual mode on 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb 2021. The webinar was followed by interactive discussion session where the students and faculty from various colleges in Goa, interacted with her.

### CAMPUS BIRD COUNT (CBC)

Chowgule’s Birders Club of the Department of Zoology participated in the Campus Bird Count (CBC) which is a sub-event of the Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) hosted by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. The students were guided by 03 faculty- Mr. Stephen Jonah Dias, Ms. Prasanna Naik Gaonkar and Ms. Pratibha Tripathi, from 12<sup>th</sup> -15<sup>th</sup> February 2021. A total of 38 bird species were identified during the survey.

Govt. College of Arts, Science and Commerce Khandola, Marcella-Goa 403107 (Estd. 1989)  
Affiliated to Goa University  
UGC NAAC Accredited with “A” Grade NIRF Rank Band 101-150 (2019 & 2020 rankings)

State Level Webinar  
On  
“Importance of Microbiology in Genetic Diagnosis”  
23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2021 at 11:15 a.m.  
Organised by  
Department of Microbiology  
Last date for registration: 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 2021.  
E-certificates will be provided.  
Registration link: <https://forms.gle/xmWvAmDSGrNi8aye6>

**Resource Person**  
Dr. Nandini Vaz Fernandes  
Head, Department of Zoology,  
Dean-Faculty of Life Sciences,  
Parvatibai Chowgule College

Dr. Purnakala Samant (Principal)  
Dr. Pravina Kerkar (IQAC Director)  
Dr. Dileeta D’Costa (HOD)  
Dr. Amara Mulla (Coordinator)  
Ms. Johanna Gonsalves (Co-Coordinator)



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### EDITORIAL:



White bellied Sea Eagle is a predatory bird that is mostly seen in small number along the coast, backwaters, and estuaries. They are usually seen circling over the waters to spot a prey fish or water snakes. Only one species of sea eagle, that is the White-Bellied Sea Eagle is found in Goa. Birds of this genus have long, broad wings, moderately long and rounded tails. These birds are dependent on water systems. They also feed on juvenile herons, egrets and storks in heronries like Salim Ali Bird Sanctuary, Chora. It is protected under Schedule-I of the Indian Wildlife Protection Act of 1972. Recently in Goa, a white bellied Sea eagle was seized by the Goa forest Department on the basis of illegal captivity as these species of bird are protected under Schedule I, II, and IV of Wildlife Protection Act, 1972. The family from whom the bird was taken had it for around 7 years. The bird was found injured and was treated and domesticated by the family, unaware of its status under the wildlife protection act. The bird was habituated to the food provided to it and was unable to fly or prey. Seven years later the bird was taken away by the Forest Department, Goa and was kept at a Zoo.

What can be concluded from this entire incidence?  
***Did this act of protection provide ecological security?***



### BIRD WALK- GOA FOREST DEPARTMENT

Dr. Nandini Vaz Fernandes and Mr. Stephen Dias, Department of Zoology coordinated the 'Bird Walk' organised by Goa Forest Department from 05<sup>th</sup> to 07<sup>th</sup> February 2021. Bird walks were conducted at two sites viz. Carambolim Lake and Curtorim-Raia Lake (Maina-Curtorim Wetland Complex). Mr. Stephen Dias, Ms. Gautami Manakikar, Ms. Prasanna Naik Gaonkar and Ms. Pratibha Tripathi conducted the birdwalks for the general public on behalf of the forest department.



Bird walk at Curtorim



Bird Walk at carambolim



## FACULTY AS RESOURCE PERSON

Dr. Nandini Vaz Fernandes, was invited as a resource person for 'DBT Star National lecture Series' organised by Modern College of Arts, Science & Commerce, Pune Maharashtra India. Bird The lecture series was conducted in a virtual mode on 01<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb 2021. Dr. Nandini Delivered a session on "Tools and techniques in diagnosis of Genetic Diagnosis. Students and faculty from various colleges, who participated in the lecture series, interacted with Dr. Nandini to know more about various techniques used in diagnosis of genetic disorders.

Progressive Education Society's  
MODERN COLLEGE OF ARTS, SCIENCE AND COMMERCE, GANESHKHIND, PUNE  
(College with 'Star Status' from DBT)  
Organizes

### 'DBT Star' National Lecture Series

<b>Dr. Maryam Sarwat</b> Associate Professor, AMITY University, NOIDA <b>Applications of Genetic Engineering in Pharmaceuticals</b> 01/02/2021 @ 11.00 am	<b>Dr. Sachin Bhagwat</b> Senior Vice-President, Drug Discovery Wockhardt Research Centre, AURANGABAD <b>A Saga of 1<sup>st</sup> India-Discovered Novel Antibiotics - "Make-in-India" to Discover-in-India</b> 02/02/2021 @ 11.00 am
<b>Dr. Sandeep Kumar Verma</b> Associate Professor, SAGE University, INDORE <b>Plant Tissue Culture and Biotechnology</b> 01/02/2021 @ 12.30 pm	<b>Dr. Nandini Vaz Fernandes</b> Dean, Faculty of Science, Parvatibai Chowgale College, GOA <b>Tools and Techniques in diagnosis of genetic disorders</b> 02/02/2021 @ 12.30 pm
<b>Dr. Abhijit Dey</b> Sr. Asstt. Professor, Presidency University, KOLKATA <b>CRISPR/Cas and Genome Editing</b> 01/02/2021 @ 2.30 pm	<b>Dr. Bhabatosh Das</b> Senior Scientist/ Associate Professor Translational Health Science and Technology Institute (DBT), FARIDABAD <b>Human Gut Microbiome and Antibiotic Resistance</b> 02/02/2021 @ 2.30 pm

There is no Fee for attending Platform : [Microsoft Teams](#) (Link: )

Dr. Vinay Kumar  
Coordinator, DBT Star Scheme

Prof. Varsha Joshi  
Vice-Principal, Science

Dr. Sanjay Kharat  
Principal

## PARTICIPATION IN BIRD FESTIVAL CAMP

A total of 16 students from the department of Zoology, participated in the Bird festival Camp organised by Goa Forest department from 05<sup>th</sup> to 07<sup>th</sup> February 2021.



## FACULTY AS RESOURCE PERSON

Prof. Nandkumar Sawant, Dr. Nandini Vaz Fernandes, Mr. Stephen Dias and Mr. Deepak Kumbhar were invited as Resource persons by Forest Department, Govt. of Goa. They conducted a 'Capacity Building Workshop: "Wildlife Management through GIS and GPS Technology"' for 50 forest officials on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2021. Dr. Nandini Fernandes discussed various conventional and advanced geospatial tools used to monitor biodiversity such as ground surveys, aerial photography, radio telemetry, infrared camera trapping, remote sensing, GIS and GPS in monitoring wildlife. Mr. Stephen Dias explained the technicalities in the operation of camera traps and recording of metric data from pugmarks and use of M-STRIPES.



DR. NANDINI VAZ FERNANDES



MR. STEPHEN DIAS



## GUART RESULTS



A total of 12 students from the Department of Zoology cleared the GUART entrance exam held in January 2021. Ms. Neeha Borker secured the 1st rank in Zoology and 2nd rank in Biotechnology.

## TIPS FOR GUART PREPARATION

“After skimming through the syllabus for various courses offered by Goa University and my profound interest in Biotechnology, I opted to answer for two courses in Life Sciences: - M.Sc in Zoology and M.Sc in Biotechnology. Based on the syllabus for entrance test in Zoology, I started working on studying the required topics, focusing on important aspects like Diversity and Physiological systems of Vertebrates and Cell Biology. As the mode of entrance was Multiple Choice questions, I used a reference book containing sample papers for practicing and conducted self mock tests in order to build my confidence. This helped in understanding my scoring pattern and facilitated ease of answering entrance tests in both subjects.”

— **Ms. Neeha Sinai Borker**

**GUART Rank: 01st (Zoology)  
02nd (Biotechnology)**



“I studied everyday for one to two hours, using that time to recollect and revise everything we were taught during the first and second year of BSc. Apart from the notes that were given by the teachers; I also referred reference books and the internet for studying and gaining more knowledge on certain topics like on Cancer biology. After revising each topic, I would make brief notes so that I could understand the topic thoroughly. I used the same notes to revise the key points just before the exam and that helped me immensely.”

— **Ms. Shatakshi Bhat**

**GUART Rank: 03rd (Zoology)**



“In order to prepare for the GUART exam, I made a time table and decided to spend at least 2 hours a day to review the topics in needed to study for the exam. I studied by going through my college notes, reading some reference books and also watching YouTube videos to understand concepts better. First I reviewed all the main topics and made a note of all the topics that were difficult so that I could go through them again. I also made some flowcharts which helped me to remember some topics better.”

— **Ms. Anouska Mascarenhas**

**GUART Rank: 05th (Zoology)**



## EDITORIAL BOARD: DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY

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Email your feedback and comments to: [zoology@chowgules.ac.in](mailto:zoology@chowgules.ac.in)