

Goa University Report on "Botany Field trip to Shivaji University, Kolhapur and Ambolim, Maharashtra"

1. Title of the Event/Activity/program	Botany Field trip for M.Sc. Part I students to Shivaji University, Kolhapur and Ambolim, Maharashtra
2. Date and Time	22 nd (7:30 am onwards) and 23 rd February 2024 (till 4.15 pm)
3. Mode of conduct (Physical/Online)	Offline
4. School/ Directorate/ Section	School of Biological Sciences and Biotechnology
5. Collaborating Agency/School/Directorate	Nil
6. Detail of the Resource Person (Brief biodata)	Research scholars of Shivaji University and Prof. R.V. Gurav
7. Number of Faculty attended/participated	03 (Dr. Aditi Naik, Dr. Tanvi N. Prabhu, Mr. Allan Almeida)
8. Number of Student attended / participated	24
9. No. of external students/faculty/other participants	NA
10. The objectives of the Program/activity/event	 To provide students with practical exposure to botanical studies and conservation efforts. To explore the Botanical Garden and conservatories at Shivaji University, Kolhapur. To learn about indigenous plant species and conservation practices. To interact with experts in the field of botany and conservation.
11. Description of the Program/activity/event	The field trip to Shivaji University at Kolhapur on 22 nd February 2024 offered an enriching experience for the students, providing students with insights into botanical studies and conservation efforts.

Botanical Garden: The visit commenced with a tour of the University's Botanical Garden, renowned as the Lead Botanical Garden for Western India. Supported by funding from the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF), the garden boasts additional infrastructure and spans over 30 acres, facilitating extensive plantation efforts. A notable attraction within the garden is the petrified fossil of Mesembryoxylon mahabalai, a member of Podocarpaceae family, serving as a focal point for visitors. The Pinetum, housing around 25 species of Gymnosperms, showcased remarkable specimens such as Agathis alba, Cycas circinalis, Ginkgo biloba, and Podocarpus wallichianum. Additionally, the Conservatory Rhizomatous, Cormatous, Tuberous, and Bulbous plants of the Western Ghats, held a diverse collection of over 40 including Amorphophallus, Arisaema, species, Chlorophytum, Crinum, and Dipcadi. The Palmatum featured more than 55 species of indigenous and cultivated palms, including Arenga wightii, Bentinckia nicobarica, Corypha umbraculifera, Pinanga manii, and Wallichia densiflora. The Orchidarium housed approximately 88 species of orchids, both terrestrial and epiphytic, offering a glimpse into the rich biodiversity of the region.

Campus Exploration: After the botanical tour, students explored various attractions on the University campus, including *Victoria Amazonica*, an aquatic plant known for its striking presence. The establishment of *Victoria Amazonica* served an attraction purpose, also referred to as the "suicide plant."

Throughout the trip, students engaged in interactive sessions with research scholars and experts from Shivaji University, gaining valuable knowledge and insights into botanical studies and conservation efforts.

Return Journey: Following the Shivaji University campus exploration on 22nd February 2024, the group returned to Amboli, where they stayed at Nisarg Family Resort. An evening campfire program provided an opportunity for relaxation and camaraderie among the participants.

Next Day Activities: The following day i.e., 23rd February 2024 commenced with a visit to Hiranyakeshi temple and Kavleseth hill in Amboli, allowing students to immerse themselves in the cultural and religious heritage of the

	region. After lunch, the students returned to the Goa University campus, concluding the enriching field trip. The field trip to Shivaji University at Kolhapur and Amboli regions provided students with practical exposure to botanical studies, conservation efforts, and cultural exploration, fostering a deeper appreciation for biodiversity and heritage conservation.
12. Benefit/Key outcomes of the Program/activity/event	 Enhanced understanding of indigenous plant species and conservation practices. Practical exposure to botanical studies and research. Opportunities for interaction and learning from experts in the field. Promotion of interest and awareness in botany and conservation among students.

Name of Teacher in-charge: Dr. Aditi Naik

Designation: Asst. Professor

Signature: Thoday 3/24

Dean: Prof. B. F. Rodrigues

Dean of School of Biological Sciences

& Biotechnology

Goa University, Goa-403206

Seal of the School/Directorate/University

Date:29.02.2024

Event Photographs:

















