

Goa University

School of Biological Sciences and Biotechnology Report on Field trip to Amboli on 1st to 3rd August 2025

1. Title of the Event/Activity/program	Field trip to Amboli	
2. Date and Time	1st to 3rd August 2025	
3. Mode of conduct (Physical/Online)	Physical	
4. School/ Directorate/ Section	School of Biological Sciences and Biotechnology, Zoology	
5. Collaborating Agency/School/Directorate	_	
6. Detail of the Resource Person (Brief biodata)	_	
7. Number of Faculty attended/participated	4 faculty and 1 MTS	
8. Number of Student attended / participated	34 students of MSc. Zoology Part II	
9. No. of external students/faculty/other participants		
10. The objectives of the Program/activity/event	The field trip was conducted in order to gain hands on field experience in the courses of Herpetology, butterfly gardening, Ecotourism and Ornamental Fish Management, where in the students are exposed to flora and fauna of a ecotourism site. To explore/ observe the faunal diversity of the selected area. To examine and implement different practical field methodologies. To motivate the students to experience real biology in a novel learning environment, and develop a sense of appreciation for the environment.	

11. Description of the Program/activity/event

A field trip was conducted for MSc Semester III students of Zoology on the 1st to 3rd August, 2025. The study trip was conducted as part of the ongoing courses on Herpetology, butterfly gardening, Ornamental fish management and Ecotourism. 34 students accompanied by Dr. Sawant, Dr. Preeti Pereira, Ms. Gandhita Kundaikar, Dr. Shamshad Shaikh, and Mr. Diptesh Palkar visited the sites of Chowkul, Mahadevgad, Hiranyakeshi and Kavlesaad in Amboli to study the impact of ecotourism on the environment and other endangered and endemic fauna of the Western Ghats. The students were briefed about the impact of the heavy traffic on ecologically sensitive areas and the road kills due to the traffic.

A short trek to the chowkul village was organised with Mr. Kaka Bhise, who serves as the wildlife warden at Amboli. He briefed the students about the herpetofaunal diversity of western ghats and also elaborated on the ecotourism practices and sustainable strategies.

Night trails also were carried out to spot fauna such as the amboli bush frog, different morphs of Malabar pit viper, green vine snake, Amboli toad, Tarantulas, bioluminescent fungi, etc.

A visit was conducted to the Hiranyakeshi Temple in Amboli to observe the protection of the endemic loach Schistura hiranyakeshi species found in the temple spring. It was noted that religious sentiments associated with the sacredness of the site have played a significant role in the conservation of the loach. Local beliefs discourage any form of disturbance or extraction of organisms from the temple pond, which has inadvertently led to the protection of this rare aquatic species. This demonstrates how traditional cultural and religious values can contribute to biodiversity conservation, especially in ecologically sensitive areas. A visit was also conducted to the KSR global aquarium at Kesari village, to expose the students to different ornamental fishes, aqua scaping, maintenance breeding of these ornamental fishes.

12. Benefit/Key outcomes of the

The students spotted several animals which

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Program/activity/event	would not have been visible in other areas, they learnt different field-based methods for identifying different of animals, observed direct and indirect evidences of animals, as well as impact of ecotourism on the flora and fauna of the location. The students were advised to create an inventory of all fauna and flora sighted along the trails. The students also learnt about the different kinds of ornamental fishes, their breeding and maintenance and the set ups required.
13. Enclosures with report	Geo-tag photos, Sanction orders, attendance attached.

Signature:

Name of coordinator Dr. Altin 3. Sawan Dean/Director/Head

Designation: Assistant Professor

Date: 05/08/25

Seal of the School/Directorate/University

Dean of School of Riolegical Sciences

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Gos University, Gos-403206

Field Trip To Amboli, 1st to 3rd August 2025

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Visit to Chowkul Village









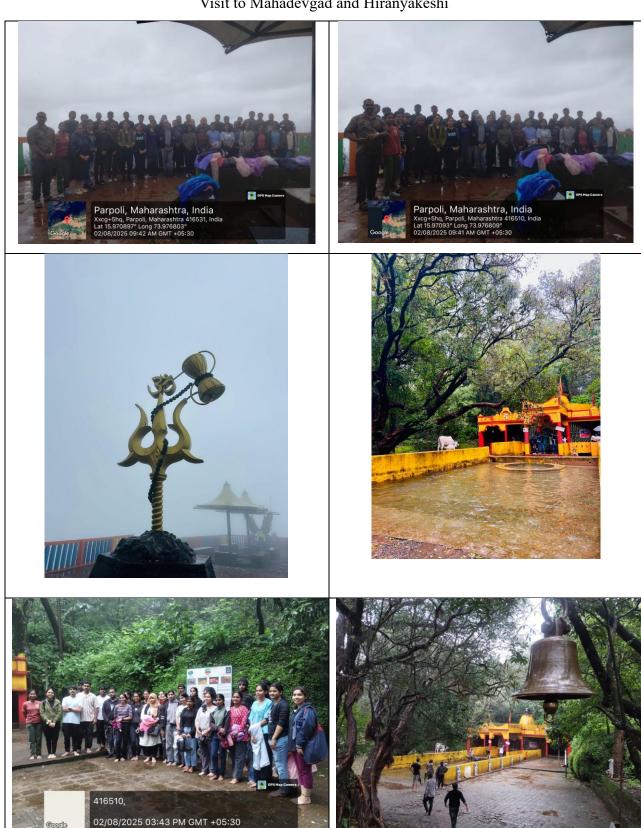




Morning Trail



Visit to Mahadevgad and Hiranyakeshi



Visit to Kavlesaad











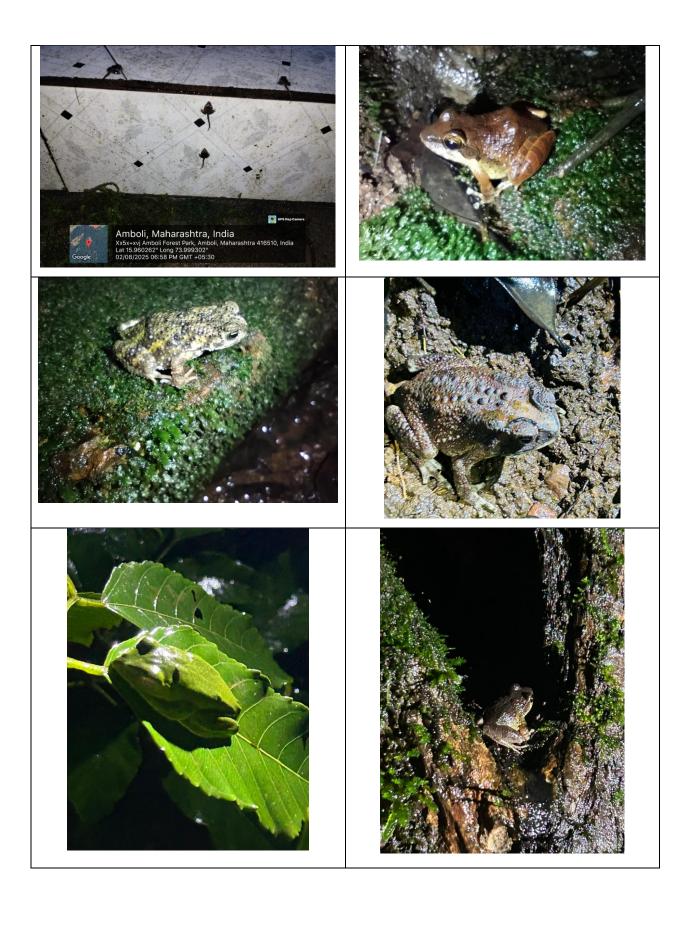


Evening Trail for herpetology and interaction with Kaka Bhise



Fauna encountered during the field trip





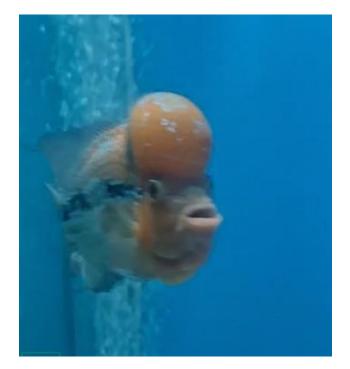
Visit it KSR Global Aquarium















गोंय विद्यापीठ

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(Accredited by NAAC)

Goa University

Taleigao Plateau, Goa-403 206 Tel : +91-8669609048 Email : registrar@unigoa.ac.in

Website: www.unigoa.ac.in

No.:GU/Acad-PG/Field Trips/Tours/2025-26/262

Date:23/07/2025

ORDER

Sanction of the Vice Chancellor is hereby conveyed to the Dean, School of Biological Sciences and Biotechnology, to organize a Study Tour/Field trip to Amboli, from 01/08/2025 to 03/08/2025, as a part of the ongoing M. Sc. Zoology Part-II Programme.

The Field Trip should be in compliance with Circular No. GU/Field Trips/Tours/2024/655 dated 19/11/2024 and GU/Acad-PG/Field Trips/ Tour/2012/458/3301 dated 26/10/2012.

An expenditure to the extent of Rs. 50,000/- is sanctioned towards the same to the Dean, School of Biological Sciences and Biotechnology, Goa University and shall be debited to the Budget Head S-8(7) Study Tour/Field trip.

(Ashwin Lawande)
Dy. Registrar–Academic

To, The Dean, School of Biological Sciences and Biotechnology, Goa University.

Copy to:

- 1. Finance Officer
- 2. AR-VC's Secretariat
- 3. PA to Registrar

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Goa University

Taleigao Plateau, Goa-403 206

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Website: www.unigoa.ac.in

(Accredited by NAAC)

GU/Admn.(T)/2025/

Date:

07/2025

ORDER

Sanction of the Vice-Chancellor is hereby conveyed to depute the following faculty/staff members to accompany the students of Zoology discipline, School of Biological Sciences & Biotechnology, Goa University for the field trip to Amboli for the period from 01/08/2025 to 03/08/2025.

- Dr. Nitin Sawant, Assistant Professor, School of Biological Sciences & Biotechnology, Goa University.
- 2. Dr. Shamshad Bi Shaikh, Assistant Professor, School of Biological Sciences & Biotechnology, Goa University.
- 3. Ms. Gandhita Kundaikar, Assistant Professor, School of Biological Sciences & Biotechnology, Goa University.
- 4. Dr. Preeti Pereira, Assistant Professor, School of Biological Sciences & Biotechnology, Goa University.
- Mr. Diptesh Palkar, Multi-Tasking Staff, School of Biological Sciences & Biotechnology, Goa University.

They are permitted to leave the headquarters during the above period.

They are sanctioned TA/DA as per rules. The expenditure shall be debited to the Budget Head S-8(7).

Their absence for the above period shall be treated as "ON DUTY".

(Prof. S. N. Dhuri) Registrar

To

The above concerned Faculty/Staff members.

Copy to:

- 1) Dean, SBSB.
- 2) AR(NT)
- 3) Personal files.
- 4) Guard file.