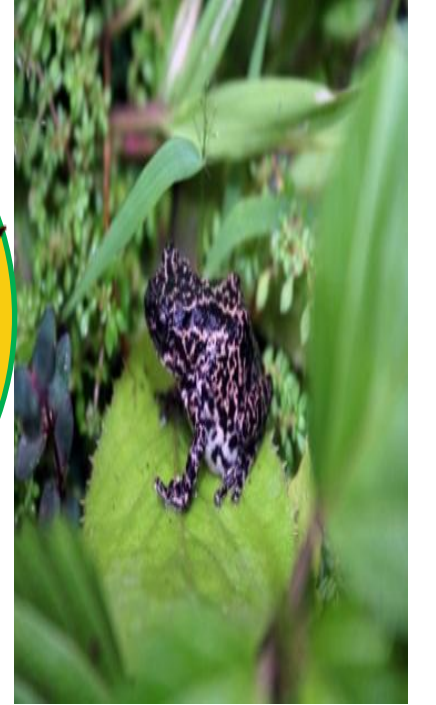




**Maharashtra Education Society's
Abasaheb Garware College (Autonomous), Pune
Department of Zoology**



ZOOLOGY ASSOCIATION

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY

2025-2026

**PROF. DR. NIRBHAY SUDHIR PIMPLE
HEAD OF ZOOLOGY DEPARTMENT**

ZOOLOGY ASSOCIATION

INDEX

Sr.no	Date	Activity
1	20 Th July 2025	Spider Walk
2	06 th -8 th August 2025	Three days' Workshop on Amazing Arthropods
3	21 st July 2025	Lecture on Skill development and Restoration
4	14 Th August 2025	Guest lecture on Snakes-Myth and facts
5	5 th September 2025	Tree plantation drive
6	18 th September 2025	Lecture on Unlocking happiness
7	23 rd September 2025	Science film festival
8	5 Th September 2025	Tree plantation drive on Teacher's day
9	25 Th September 2025	One day workshop on hands on training on Snake rescue operation and ethical issues pertaining to reptiles.
10	05 th September 2025	Tree plantation drive
11	11 th Dec 2025.	A lecture on "On-the-Job Training in Biodiversity"
12	12 th March 2026	Zoology exhibition

SPIDER WALK

A field visit to study arthropods was conducted on **20th July 2025** at Talegaon in association with Earth walk. The objective of the visit was to observe and collect arthropod specimens in their natural habitat, and to gain hands-on experience in identifying and classifying different arthropod species. Students of F.Y, S.Y and T.Y.B.Sc attended the field visit along with Ms. Sheetal Zend (faculty member) of Zoology department to explore the biodiversity of Insects.



The poster is green with a yellow banner at the top that says "Spider Walk" and "An evening with arachnids!". It features illustrations of various spiders. Logos for "earthwatch" and "Wildlife Rescuer of Maval" are in the top corners. A quote says "Discover the secret world of spiders with expert arachnologist!". It lists the date as "20th July, 2025", the location as "Talegaon Dabhade lake, Talegaon, PUNE", and the time as "5:00 pm - 6:00 pm". A photo of "Arachnologist Rishikesh Tripathi" is included. A list of benefits includes "Participation Certificates will be provided", "Refreshments will be served", and "No Registration Fees - Free Entry!". A QR code for the "Registration Form" is in the bottom right. Contact information for coordinators and organizers is at the bottom.

Spider Walk
An evening with arachnids!

“ Discover the secret world of spiders with expert arachnologist!

Join us for an unforgettable nature walk as we explore the hidden lives of spiders -

Arachnologist
Rishikesh Tripathi

20th July, 2025
Talegaon Dabhade lake, Talegaon, PUNE
5:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Registration Form

- ✓ Participation Certificates will be provided
- ✓ Refreshments will be served
- ✓ No Registration Fees - Free Entry!

Coordinators:
Jigar Solanki, Wildlife Rescuer of Maval
Nikhil Kuni, Earthwatch Institute India

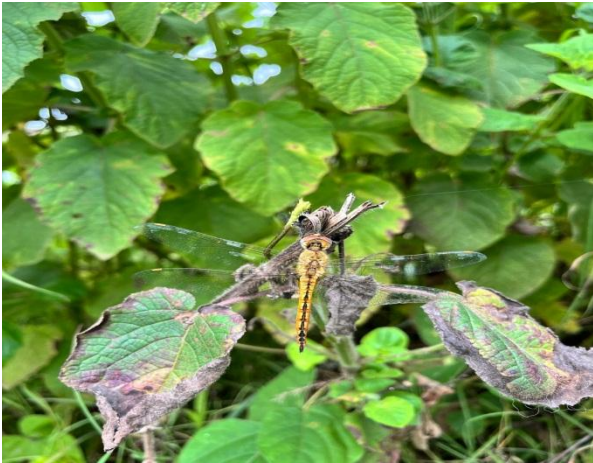
Contact us at:
8087342400
9175656622 / nikhilkuni@gmail.com

Observations

- Diversity of Arthropods: A diverse range of arthropod species was observed, including insects, arachnids, and crustaceans.
- Habitat Associations: Different arthropod species were found to be associated with specific habitats, such as aquatic insects in water bodies and ants in soil and leaf litter.
- Behavioural Observations: Interesting behavioural observations were made, including mating behaviours, predator-prey interactions, and social interactions among arthropods

Key Findings

- Species Identification: Several arthropod species were identified, including [list specific species, e.g., butterflies, beetles, spiders.
- Habitat Preferences: Arthropods were found to prefer specific habitats, such as moist areas, sunny spots, or areas with abundant food sources.
- Ecological Roles: Arthropods play important ecological roles, including pollination, decomposition, and predation.



Conclusion

The field visit provided valuable insights into the diversity and ecology of arthropods. The hands-on experience of collecting and identifying arthropod specimens enhanced our understanding of these fascinating creatures. Fifty five students actively participated in the spider walk. The observations and findings from this study can inform future research and conservation efforts.

Three days' Workshop on Amazing Arthropods

Lecture Series Report: Amazing Arthropods

Introduction

The lecture series on "Amazing Arthropods" was conducted from 06/08/2025 to 08//08/2025 at Audio visual hall of the College. The series aimed to provide an in-depth understanding of arthropods, their diversity, ecology, and importance in various ecosystems. One hundred and seven students actively participated in the workshop.

Lecture Series Overview

- Number of Lectures 06 lectures was delivered by experts in the field of arthropod biology.
- Topics Covered: The lectures covered a range of topics, including arthropod diversity, evolution, ecology, behaviour, and conservation.
- Target Audience: The lecture series was attended by students, researchers.

MES' Abasaheb Garware College, (Autonomous), Pune
Department of Zoology
presents
A three days workshop
AMAZING ARTHROPODA
Let's explore the tiny heroes of nature

6th - 8th August, 2025
1.30 PM to 4.30 PM
(Field visit on third day)

Registration fees: 150/-

Scan to register

Prof. Dr. Nirbhay Sudhir
Pimple
Head, Zoology department.

Prof. Dr. Vilas Ugale
Principal

MES' Abasaheb Garware College,
(Autonomous), Pune

**A Three Day Workshop
Amazing Arthropoda**

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

DAY 1: 6th August, 2025, Wednesday

lauguration and Introduction	1.00 PM- 1.30 PM
Dr Hemant Ghate Talk: Introduction to Arthropoda, and major terrestrial insect orders	1.30 PM. - 2:30 PM
Dr Shruti Paripatyadar Talk: Aquatic Insects	2.30 PM - 3.30 PM
Break	3.30 PM - 3.45 PM
Dr Yugandhar Shinde Talk: Subphylum Crustecea	3.45 PM - 4.45 PM
Q & A Session	4.45 PM - 5.00 PM
Closing Remarks	5.00 PM

MES' Abasaheb Garware College,
(Autonomous), Pune

**A Three Day Workshop:
Amazing Arthropoda**

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

DAY 2 : 7th August, 2025, Thursday

Welcome Speech	1.00 PM- 1.30 PM
Mr Rishikesh Tripathi Talk: Introduction and Taxonomy of Arachnids	1.30 PM - 2:30 PM
Ms Sheetal Zend Talk: Ecology of mangrove spiders	2.30 PM - 3.30 PM
Break	3.30 PM - 3.45 PM
Dr Siddharth Kulkarni Talk: Evolutionary trends in Arachnids	3.45 PM - 4.45 PM
Q & A Session	4.45 PM - 5.00 PM
Closing Remarks	5.00 PM

MES' Abasaheb Garware College,
(Autonomous), Pune

**A THREE DAYS WORKSHOP
AMAZING ARTHROPODA**
By Department of Zoology

6TH - 8TH
AUGUST,
2025
AV HALL,
GARWARE
COLLEGE

Dr Hemant Ghate
Senior Entomologist
Former Head Modern
College, Pune

Dr Siddharth
Kulkarni
Ramanujan Fellow
CCMB, Hyderabad

Rishikesh Tripathi,
Senior Research
Fellow, CATE lab,
Christ College, Kerala

Dr Yugandhar Shinde
Assistant Professor
Modern College

Ms Sheetal Zend,
Programme Co-ordinator

Prof Dr Nirbhay Pimple
Head
Zoology Department

Prof. Dr. Vilas Ugale
Principal

- Introduction to major Arthropod groups
- Visit to museum collection
- On-field sampling methods

Key Takeaways

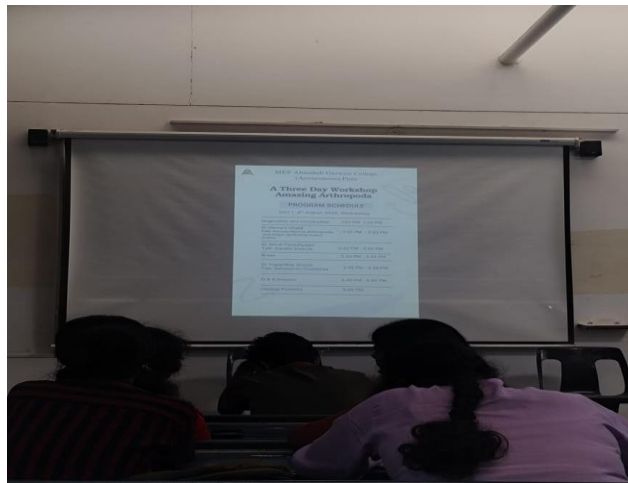
- **Arthropod Diversity:** The lectures highlighted the incredible diversity of arthropods, including insects, arachnids, and crustaceans.
- **Ecological Importance:** Arthropods play crucial roles in ecosystems, including pollination, decomposition, and predation.
- **Conservation Challenges:** The lectures discussed the challenges facing arthropod conservation, including habitat destruction, climate change, and pesticide use.

Lecture Highlights

- **"Introduction & Taxonomy of Arachnids"** - An overview of arthropod diversity and evolution.
- **"Ecology of Mangrooves"** - Discussion of arthropod roles in ecosystems and their interactions with other organisms.
- **"Evolutionary trends in Arachnids"** - Exploration of arthropod behaviour, including mating, foraging, and social behaviour.

Evaluation and Feedback

- **Participant Feedback:** Participants provided positive feedback, praising the lectures for their clarity, depth, and relevance.
- **Knowledge Gain:** Participants reported a significant increase in their understanding of arthropods and their importance in ecosystems.



Conclusion

The lecture series on "Amazing Arthropoda" was a success, providing a comprehensive overview of arthropod biology and ecology. The series highlighted the importance of arthropods and the need for their conservation. Future events can build on the success of this series, exploring more topics and themes related to arthropods.

Recommendations

- Future Events: Organize future events and workshops on arthropod-related topics to build on the momentum generated by this series.
- Collaboration: Collaborate with other organizations and experts to expand the scope and reach of arthropod-related events and research.
- Outreach: Develop outreach programs to raise awareness about the importance of arthropods and the need of conservation.



Lecture on Skill development and Restoration

Lecture was organized by Zoology department on Honey bee restoration for Students of Zoology. Mr. Amit Ghodse Director of Bee Basket delivered the lecture on 21st July 2025. An **MOU was signed with the department so as to absorb students for OJT**. Honey bees (*Apis mellifera*) are essential pollinators of many crops and wildflowers, playing a crucial role in maintaining ecosystem health and food security.

However, honey bee populations are facing numerous challenges, including habitat loss, pesticide use, and climate change. This lecture will discuss the importance of honey bee restoration and strategies for conserving and promoting healthy honey bee populations.

Importance of Honey Bees

- **Pollination Services:** Honey bees provide pollination services to many crops, including fruits, vegetables, and nuts.
- **Ecosystem Health:** Honey bees contribute to the health and biodiversity of ecosystems by pollinating wildflowers and other plants.
- **Food Security:** Honey bees are essential for food security, as many crops rely on them for pollination.



Challenges Facing Honey Bees

- **Habitat Loss:** The destruction and degradation of natural habitats, such as meadows and forests, have reduced the availability of food and shelter for honey bees.
- **Pesticide Use:** The use of pesticides, such as neonicotinoids, has been linked to honey bee deaths and colony declines.
- **Climate Change:** Climate change is altering the timing and availability of nectar and pollen, making it challenging for honey bees to survive.

Strategies for Honey Bee Restoration

- **Habitat Restoration:** Restoring natural habitats, such as meadows and forests, can provide honey bees with the food and shelter they need to thrive.
- **Bee-Friendly Plants:** Planting bee-friendly plants, such as flowers and herbs, can provide honey bees with a source of nectar and pollen.
- **Reducing Pesticide Use:** Reducing or eliminating the use of pesticides can help protect honey bees from harm.
- **Supporting Local Beekeepers:** Supporting local beekeepers can help promote the health and sustainability of honey bee populations.

Community Involvement

- **Community Gardens:** Community gardens can provide a space for people to plant bee-friendly plants and learn about honey bee conservation.
- **Bee Education Programs:** Education programs can teach people about the importance of honey bees and how to support their conservation.
- **Citizen Science Projects:** Citizen Science projects can engage people in honey bee research and conservation efforts.

Conclusion

Honey bee restoration is essential for maintaining ecosystem health and food security. By restoring habitats, planting bee-friendly plants, reducing pesticide use, and supporting local beekeepers, we can help promote the health and sustainability of honey bee populations. Community involvement and education are key to the success of honey bee restoration efforts.

GUEST LECTURE ON SNAKES-MYTH AND FACT

The Department of Zoology organized an enlightening guest lecture on the topic “Snakes – Myths and Facts” on **14/08/2025**, in the department of Zoology. The session was conducted by Mr. Mahesh Dinkar Bilaskar a renowned snake rescuer/wild life restorer who has extensive experience in the field of reptile studies and conservation.

The lecture aimed to dispel common misconceptions about snakes and to create awareness about their ecological importance. The speaker began by addressing the widespread fear and negative perception associated with snakes in society. Through real-life examples and scientific explanations, he/she clarified several myths such as snakes drinking milk, chasing humans deliberately, or being inherently aggressive.

The session also highlighted the crucial role snakes play in maintaining ecological balance by controlling rodent populations and contributing to biodiversity. Various species found in our region were introduced, with an emphasis on how to identify venomous and non-venomous snakes. The speaker further guided the audience on first-aid measures in case of snakebites, emphasizing the importance of avoiding harmful traditional practices and seeking immediate medical help.

The lecture concluded with an interactive Q&A session, where students actively participated and cleared their doubts. The talk not only enriched the knowledge of the audience but also inspired them to spread awareness about snake conservation and to respect these misunderstood creatures.

Overall, the guest lecture was highly informative and engaging. It successfully challenged age-old myths, replacing fear with facts, and instilled a sense of responsibility towards protecting wildlife. Seventy five students from F.Y, S.Y and T.Y actively participated in the session.



TREE PLANTATION DRIVE ON TEACHERS DAY

The Department of Zoology organized Tree plantation drive on Teachers **05/09/2025**, Twenty students participated in the plantation drive which was held on Symbiosis Hill. Tree plantation drive was under taken. Endemic varieties of plants Namely Tamrind, Neem, Banyan plant, Indian fig tree were planted on the symbiosis hill top. The hill top has seen lot of tree cutting in the recent years and this is leading to soil erosion. So keeping in the mind to prevent further

damage to the hill and at the same time the need of introducing endemic plants which are of the same soil , the students have planted 50 plants in the first drive of plantation.

Objectives of the programme:

1. Environmental Protection

- * Trees play a vital role in maintaining ecological balance.
- * They absorb carbon dioxide and release oxygen, helping to combat climate change and air Pollution.





2.*Biodiversity Conservation

- * Plantation drives create habitats for birds, insects, and other wildlife.
- * They help restore degraded ecosystems and maintain natural cycles.

3. Soil and Water Conservation

- * Trees prevent soil erosion by binding the soil with their roots.
- * They improve groundwater levels and regulate the water cycle.

4. Climate Regulation

- * By providing shade and reducing the heat island effect, trees help in moderating temperatures.
- * They contribute to a healthier and cooler environment, especially in urban areas.

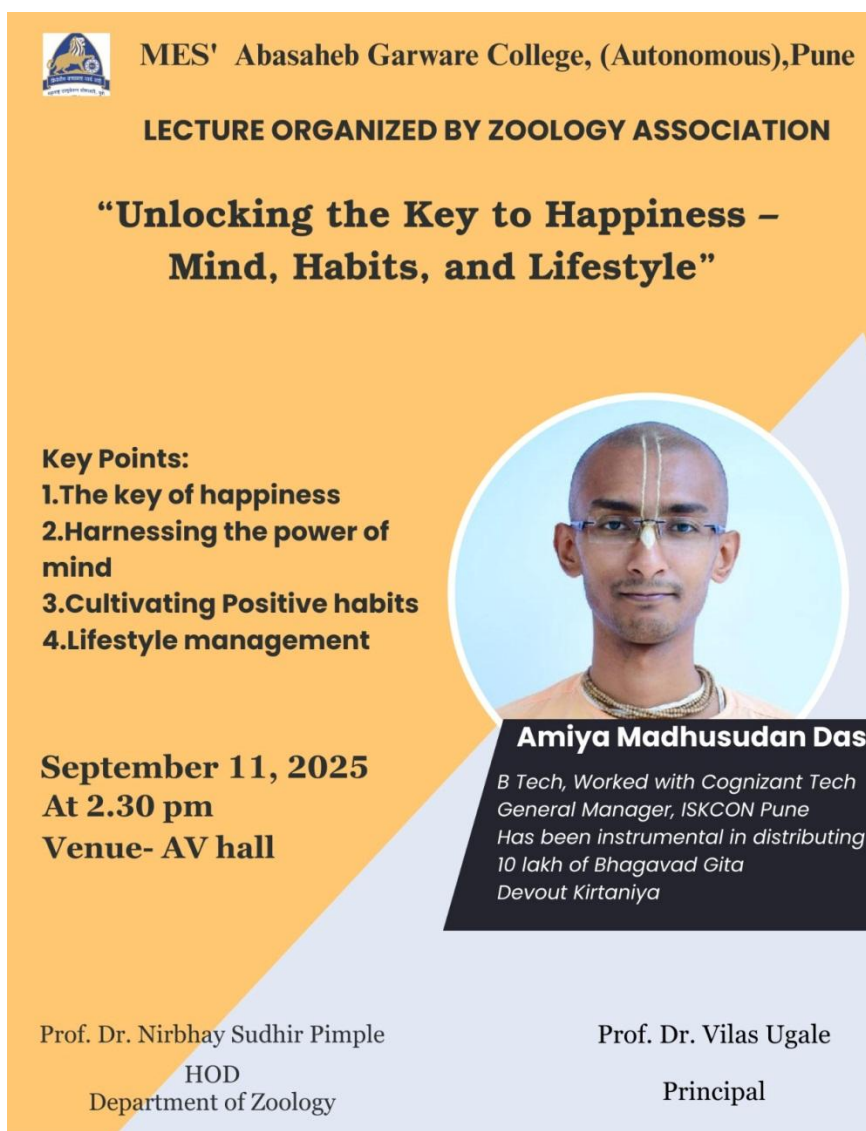
5. Community Well-being


- * Green spaces promote mental health and well-being.
- * Plantation drives bring communities together for a common cause, spreading awareness about sustainability.

6. Future Generations

- * Planting trees today ensures clean air, fertile soil, and a healthier planet for future generations.

UNLOCKING THE KEY OF HAPPINESS –MIND HEALTH & LIFESTYLE



 **MES' Abasaheb Garware College, (Autonomous), Pune**

LECTURE ORGANIZED BY ZOOLOGY ASSOCIATION

**“Unlocking the Key to Happiness –
Mind, Habits, and Lifestyle”**

Key Points:

1. The key of happiness
2. Harnessing the power of mind
3. Cultivating Positive habits
4. Lifestyle management

September 11, 2025
At 2.30 pm
Venue- AV hall

Amiya Madhusudan Das
*B Tech, Worked with Cognizant Tech
General Manager, ISKCON Pune
Has been instrumental in distributing
10 lakh of Bhagavad Gita
Devout Kirtaniya*

Prof. Dr. Nirbhay Sudhir Pimple
HOD
Department of Zoology

Prof. Dr. Vilas Ugale
Principal

Introduction

A lecture on “Unlocking the Key of Happiness” was successfully organised with the objective of creating awareness about mental well-being, positive thinking, and balanced living. The programme aimed to help participants understand the true meaning of happiness and ways to achieve it in daily life.

Proceedings of the Lecture

The programme began with a warm welcome to the resource person and participants. The speaker introduced the concept of happiness and explained that happiness is not merely dependent on external factors such as wealth or success, but largely influenced by one’s mindset, attitudes, and values.

The lecture highlighted key aspects such as:

- * Importance of self-awareness and self-acceptance
- * Role of positive thinking and gratitude
- * Managing stress and emotions effectively
- * Maintaining healthy relationships
- * Balancing personal, academic, and professional life



The speaker shared real-life examples and simple practices like mindfulness, optimism, and goal setting to unlock inner happiness. The session was interactive, with participants actively engaging through questions and discussions.

Outcome of the Programme

The lecture had a positive impact on the participants. They gained valuable insights into understanding happiness from a holistic perspective and learned practical techniques to improve mental well-being. The session motivated students to adopt a positive outlook towards life and challenges.

Conclusion

The lecture on “Unlocking the Key of Happiness” was informative, inspiring, and thought-provoking. It successfully achieved its objective of spreading awareness about emotional well-being and the importance of inner happiness. The programme concluded with a vote of thanks, expressing gratitude to the resource person and all participants for making the event a success.

SCIENCE FILM FESTIVAL

Introduction

A Science Film Festival was organised to promote scientific awareness and develop interest in science and technology among students. The festival aimed to present complex scientific concepts in an engaging and visual manner through films and documentaries.

Film Screening Sessions

Several science-based films and documentaries were screened during the festival. The films covered topics such as environmental conservation, space exploration, health and medicine, climate change, and recent technological innovations. Each screening was followed by short explanations and interactive discussions, which helped students better understand the scientific ideas presented.

Student Participation

Students actively participated in the festival by attending screenings, asking questions, and sharing their views during discussions. Some sessions also included quizzes and feedback activities, which made the programme more engaging and informative.

Learning Outcomes

The Science Film Festival helped students:

- * Develop curiosity and interest in scientific topics
- * Understand real-life applications of science
- * Improve critical thinking and observation skills
- * Appreciate the role of media in science education



Conclusion

The Science Film Festival was a great success. It provided an excellent learning experience and inspired students to explore science beyond textbooks. The event concluded with a vote of thanks to the organisers, speakers, and participants for making the festival meaningful and successful.

ONE DAY WORKSHOP ON HANDS ON TRAINING ON SNAKE RESCUE OPERATION AND ETHICAL ISSUES PERTAINING TO REPTILES.

Introduction

A one day workshop on ****Hands-on Training on Snake Rescue Operation and Ethical Issues Pertaining to Reptiles**** was successfully organized with the objective of creating awareness and providing practical knowledge on safe snake handling, rescue techniques, and conservation-oriented ethical practices. The workshop aimed to sensitize participants about the ecological importance of reptiles and to reduce fear and misconceptions associated with snakes.

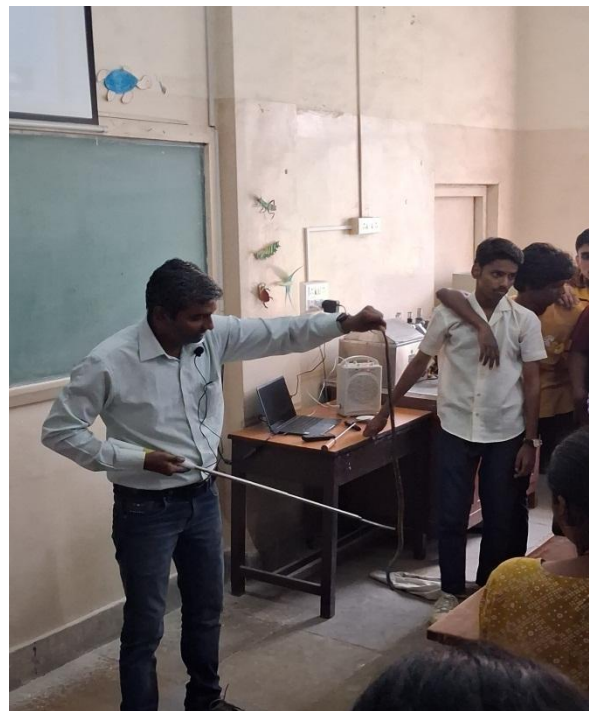
Objectives of the Workshop

- * To impart basic knowledge about identification of venomous and non-venomous snakes
- * To provide hands-on training in safe and scientific snake rescue techniques
- * To educate participants on ethical and legal aspects related to reptile rescue
- * To promote conservation and coexistence with reptiles

Resource Person

The workshop was conducted by experienced snake rescuer Mr Mahesh. Birajdar who shared their extensive field experience, practical insights, and conservation ethics related to reptiles.





Participants

The workshop witnessed active participation from students, faculty members, research scholars, wildlife enthusiasts, and volunteers interested in biodiversity conservation and wildlife rescue operations.

Program Highlights

Theoretical Session: The workshop began with an informative lecture on reptile diversity, snake behaviour, venom mechanism, and common myths related to snakes.

Identification Techniques: Participants were trained to identify commonly found venomous and non-venomous snakes using morphological features and behavioural cues.

Hands-on Training: Live demonstrations and practical sessions were conducted on safe handling, use of rescue equipment, and proper release methods in natural habitats.

Ethical and Legal Issues: Special emphasis was laid on wildlife protection laws, ethical responsibilities of rescuers, animal welfare, and the importance of avoiding unnecessary captivity.

Safety Measures: Guidance on personal safety, first aid for snake bi

TREE PLANTATION DRIVE

On the occasion of Teachers' Day, 5th September 2025, **the** Department of Zoology, Abasaheb Garware College (Autonomous) successfully organized a Tree Plantation Drive as part of its commitment towards environmental conservation and ecological awareness.

The programme aimed to inculcate a sense of responsibility among students towards nature and to highlight the importance of biodiversity conservation. Under this drive, a total of **150 indigenous tree saplings** were planted within the college campus and surrounding areas. The plantation of native species was deliberately chosen to support local ecosystems, promote sustainable greenery, and enhance habitat for native fauna.





Students of **F.Y.B.Sc. Zoology** actively participated in the drive with great enthusiasm. They were guided by the faculty members of the department, who emphasized the ecological significance of indigenous plants, their role in maintaining environmental balance, and the long-term benefits of afforestation.

The activity not only contributed to increasing green cover but also served as an effective experiential learning exercise for students, aligning with the objectives of environmental education. The event concluded with a pledge by students to nurture and protect the planted saplings and to continue participating in eco-friendly initiatives.

The Tree Plantation Drive was a meaningful tribute to Teachers' Day and reflected the department's dedication to environmental sustainability and community responsibility.

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A lecture on “On-the-Job Training in Biodiversity”

A lecture on “On-the-Job Training in Biodiversity” was successfully conducted by Mr. Nishant, representative of The Grassland Trust, for the students of the Department of Zoology on 11 Dec 2025.. The lecture aimed to create awareness among students about practical exposure, skill development, and career opportunities in the field of biodiversity conservation through on-the-job training.

Mr. Nishant began the session by introducing The Grassland Trust and its role in biodiversity conservation, ecological research, habitat restoration, and community-based conservation initiatives. He emphasized the importance of grassland ecosystems, their rich biodiversity, and the urgent need for trained manpower to conserve these fragile habitats.

The speaker elaborated on the concept of **on-the-job training (OJT)** and explained how hands-on field experience plays a crucial role in shaping a student's career in biodiversity-related fields. He discussed various training components such as field surveys, species identification, data collection, biodiversity monitoring, documentation, use of GIS tools, and community interaction. Real-life examples from ongoing projects of The Grassland Trust were shared, which helped students understand the practical challenges and learning opportunities involved in conservation work.





The lecture was interactive, and students enthusiastically participated in the discussion by asking questions related to training duration, eligibility, field safety, and future prospects. The session proved to be highly informative and motivating, especially for students aspiring to build a career in biodiversity and conservation biology.

The lecture concluded with a vote of thanks, expressing gratitude to Mr. Nishant for sharing his valuable insights and practical experiences. Overall, the program was successful and beneficial, providing students with a clear understanding of the significance of on-the-job training in the field of biodiversity.

ZOOLOGY DEPARTMENTAL EXHIBITION

The Department of Zoology, MES Abasaheb Garware College (Autonomous), Pune, successfully organized a Zoology Exhibition on 12th March 2026, with the aim of promoting scientific awareness and interest in biological sciences among school students.

The exhibition witnessed enthusiastic participation from students of Bhave School, Vimlabai Garware School, and Jaihind School. The event provided a valuable platform for young learners to explore various aspects of zoology through informative models, charts, preserved specimens, and interactive displays prepared by undergraduate students of the department.

The exhibition was graced by Prof. Dr. Ishrat Shaikh, Head of the Department of Zoology, Abeda Inamdar College, Pune, as the Chief Guest. In her address, she appreciated the efforts of the students and faculty in organizing such an educational initiative. She emphasized the importance of experiential learning and encouraged school students to develop curiosity and scientific temperament.

Students presented exhibits on diverse topics such as biodiversity, animal physiology, environmental conservation, and ecological balance. The interactive sessions between college students and visiting school students made the exhibition engaging and informative







Faculty members of the Department of Zoology guided the students throughout the preparation and execution of the exhibition. The event received positive feedback from participating schools, highlighting its educational value and effective organization. 150 students enjoyed and experienced the display of specimen as well as the video on Gir national park.

Overall, the Zoology Exhibition was a grand success, fostering scientific curiosity, enhancing knowledge, and strengthening academic collaboration between the college and schools.
