

ZOOLOGY ASSOCIATION 2024-25

ANNUAL REPORT

1. INAUGURATION OF ZOOLOGY ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES 2024-25 & SEMINAR ON "GATE TO GREATNESS"

The Zoology Association Activities for the academic year 2024-25 were inaugurated on 1st October 2024 at Fr. Punnappadom Hall. The programme commenced with a prayer, followed by a welcome speech by Dr. Shibu George, Head of the Zoology Department. The Principal, Prof. Dr. Indulal G., delivered the presidential address, and the association was officially inaugurated by Mr. Siju Thomas Alencherry, CEO, Wings to Win Life Skills Academy. The vote of thanks was delivered by Merin Lalichan, Student Secretary.

A seminar titled "Gate to Greatness" was conducted by Mr. Siju Thomas Alencherry, focusing on self-development, leadership, goal-setting, and time management. The interactive session provided valuable insights into self-awareness, emotional intelligence, and career growth. The event was a great success and set a positive tone for the academic year.



2. FIELD VISIT TO PULIMUGHAM HATCHERY, THAKAZHI

On 27th November 2024, the I Semester B.Sc. Zoology (Honours) students visited Pulimugham Hatchery, Thakazhi, accompanied by Dr. Shibu George and Dr. Sunitha V.S. The students interacted with entrepreneurs Mr. Sonel Noronha and Ms. Hamia Stanny Noronha, who provided insights into aquaculture practices in Kerala, fish nutrition, and artificial breeding techniques of indigenous and ornamental fishes. This visit offered practical exposure to modern aquaculture and encouraged students to explore fisheries as a career opportunity.



3. FIELD TRIP FOR STUDYING "NATURE" AT CPCRI, KAYAMKULAM.

On 11th December 2024, the I Semester B.Sc. Zoology (Honours) students, along with two faculty members, visited ICAR-Central Plantation Crops Research Institute (CPCRI), Kayamkulam, to study plantation crop cultivation and soil microbiology. The students observed turmeric, arrowroot, and tissue-culture-modified coconut trees, gaining insights into sustainable agriculture. The field visit enhanced their understanding of plant diversity, soil health, and environmental conservation.



4. FIELD VISIT TO ONATTUKARA REGIONAL AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH STATION (RARI), KAYAMKULAM – BUTTERFLY GARDEN STUDY.

On 11th December 2024, the I Semester B.Sc. Zoology (Honours) students visited Onattukara RARI, Kayamkulam, to study the butterfly garden. The visit provided hands-on learning about host and nectar plants essential for butterfly survival and pollination. The students explored butterfly behaviour, habitat preferences, and ecological significance. This experience deepened their understanding of biodiversity conservation and pollinator importance in ecosystems.



5. ON JOB TRAINING PROGRAM FOR II B.SC. ZOOLOGY (BATCH 2023-26)

Date: 02-01-2025 to 15-01-2025.

Venue: National Institute of Fisheries Post Harvest Technology and Training (NIFPHATT), (Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying), Cochin

The National Institute of Fisheries Post Harvest Technology and Training NIFPHATT, erstwhile Integrated Fisheries Project, is an institute under the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying. The institute is devoted to all-round development of Post-Harvest Technologies.

The two weeks training course was primarily aimed at providing hands on exposure to the students in fish processing and allied areas. The training curriculum included theoretical, practical and video sessions. Field visit to approved exporting units, landing centres, other fisheries institutes etc. were also included in the programme.

Course contents included basics of food science, India's seafood sector-an overview, Biochemical composition of fish, Seafood spoilage, Preservation techniques, Seafood microbiology, Value added fishery products, By-products from seafood, Packaging technology, Quality Assurance, HACCP concepts and recent trends in seafood sector. Certificates were distributed to the students after evaluation.



6. STUDY TOUR TO BIODIVERSITY AREAS OF MUNNAR, MARAYOOR, AND KODAIKANAL.

As part of the III B.Sc. Zoology curriculum, a study tour was organised from 9th to 13th January 2025, covering biodiversity hotspots in Munnar, Marayoor, and Kodaikanal. Seventeen students, along with Dr. Shibu George and Dr. Sunitha V.S., participated. Key visits included the Kannan Devan Tea Factory, Mattupetty and Kundala Dams, Sandalwood Forests, and the Pine Forests. The students explored ecological interactions, conservation strategies, and the impact of human activities on biodiversity. This tour provided valuable field exposure and integrated classroom learning with real-world ecological studies.



7. SEMINAR ON "FROM HOBBY TO INDUSTRY – AN INSIGHT INTO ORNAMENTAL FISH CULTURE".

On 18th February 2025, the Zoology Association organised a seminar on ornamental fish culture with Dr. Sary P.S., Senior Research Fellow, FRAEED, CMFRI-Kochi, as the resource person. Forty-three students participated in the session, which covered fish species selection, breeding techniques, water quality management, and disease prevention in ornamental fish farming. The seminar highlighted the commercial scope of ornamental fisheries, encouraging students to explore entrepreneurship in this field. An interactive discussion and vote of thanks concluded the event.



The Zoology Association's activities for 2024-25 provided students with valuable academic, practical, and career-oriented learning experiences. The combination of field visits, study tours, and seminars enhanced their knowledge and practical skills, contributing to their overall academic and professional development.

Dr Shibu George (HOD)