

## DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY ANNUAL REPORT 2024-25

**Academic Activities:** The department commenced regular academic sessions on **21/07/2024**, following the prescribed timetable for both theory and practical classes. Faculty members have effectively incorporated **Information and Communication Technology (ICT) tools** such as digital presentations, virtual simulations, and online resources to make lectures more engaging and interactive.

To enhance student learning and evaluation, the department has conducted **unit tests, tutorials, seminars, and quizzes** for students across all three years of the undergraduate program. These activities have helped improve conceptual understanding, critical thinking, and research skills among students.

### Co-Curricular and Extracurricular Activities

To celebrate **Independence Day (15th August 2024)**, the department created and displayed a **wallpaper titled "Scientica,"** showcasing the role of zoology in scientific progress, environmental conservation, and national development.

A **guest lecture** was organized on **28/09/2024**, featuring **Dr. J. S. Dhole from SMDMM, Kallam**, who delivered a session on *"Marine Water Fishery."* The lecture provided valuable insights into marine biodiversity, sustainable fisheries management, and emerging challenges in aquatic resource conservation. Students actively participated in discussions, broadening their knowledge of aquatic ecosystems.

On **09/10/2024**, the department successfully conducted a **poster presentation competition** that encouraged students to explore various zoological themes. This initiative provided them with a platform to enhance their research, analytical, and communication skills.

### Participation in Research and Competitive Events

The department has actively promoted student participation in research and competitive academic events. Two student teams represented the department at **'Avishkar 2024,'** a prestigious research competition organized by **Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University (Dr. BAMU), Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar**. Notably, one team successfully qualified for the **university-level Avishkar competition**, showcasing their research excellence.



Additionally, the department is currently engaged in a **research project on 'Biodiversity'** for the academic year **2024-25**. The project involves field studies, ecological surveys, and data analysis, offering students hands-on research experience in environmental and wildlife conservation.



## Faculty Achievements

The department takes pride in the following faculty accomplishments:

- **Dr. Anil B. Devkar** successfully completed a **7-day Faculty Development Program (FDP)** under MSFDA at **Homi Bhabha Atomic Research Center (BARC)**. Additionally, he completed a **28-day MMTTC Faculty Induction Program** at **Savitribai Phule Pune University (SPPU), Pune**.
- **Dr. J. N. Shamraj, Head of the Department**, successfully completed a **28-day Faculty Induction Program (FIP)** at **Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University (Dr. BAMU), Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar**.
- **Dr. J. N. Shamraj** has also obtained a **patent for an innovative Aquatic Species Monitoring System**, further contributing to the department's research credentials.

## Conclusion

Through a combination of academic excellence, research initiatives, and extracurricular engagement, the Department of Zoology has made significant progress in fostering a holistic learning environment for students. We remain committed to further enhancing the quality of education, promoting research, and encouraging active student participation in scientific activities.

We sincerely appreciate your support and guidance in all departmental endeavours. Kindly accept this report for your perusal.

**Thanking you.**

**Yours sincerely,**

**Dr. J. N. Shamraj**  
**Head of the Department**  
**Department of Zoology**  
**Venkatesh Mahajan Senior College, Dharashiv**