



**ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE FOR WOMEN, ALUVA**  
REACCREDITED BY NAAC WITH A GRADE (CGPA 3.33)

**DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY**  
**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**2019-2020**

## ACTIVITIES OF ZOOLOGY DEPARTMENT 2019 - 2020

### NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON FOLDSCOPE AS AN EDUCATIONAL TOOL

Department organized a one-day national workshop on “Foldscope as an Educational Tool” for college students on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2020. The workshop was inaugurated by Dr. H. Shakila, Professor and Head, Department of Molecular Microbiology, Madurai Kamaraj University, Tamil Nadu. The workshop involved hands-on-training in assembling and use of foldscope in observing various specimens.



### EXPERT TALKS

- **Zoology association inauguration**

Zoology Association was inaugurated on 5<sup>th</sup> August 2019 by Dr. M. R. Ramesh Kumar, Chief Scientist, National Institute of Oceanography, Goa. He delivered a talk on Climate change.



- **Career guidance class**

Department organised FINCHE 2019 – Finding your NiCHE, a career guidance class for final year life science undergraduate students on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2019 by **Sri. Ravi Kiran**, Director, Research World, Thevara



- **Talk on forests and wildlife**

The department in association with BhoomithraSena Club organized a talk on Forests and wildlife by Mr. S. Balashankar, Forest Officer, Forest Head Quarters, Thiruvananthapuram on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2019.



- **Academic week observation**

As part of the college academic week 'Academia 2K19' a talk was organized by the department on 'Vikasana Mathrukakal Thiruthi Ezhuthendathundo - Pralayam Nalkunna Padam' by Dr. Martin G.D. Department of Chemical Oceanography, CUSAT, Kochi on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2019.



- **Talk on common birds and importance in conserving them**

As part of Wetland day observation, nature conservationist & wildlife Photographer Basil Peter gave a session on common birds and importance of conserving them on 13<sup>th</sup> February, 2020. A photography exhibition of his photographs was also done. This session was organized in association with BhoomithraSena club.



- **Alumna class**

In the Alumna interactive program, Ms. Niya Benny, Research Scholar, CUSAT, Kochi interacted with students on the topic “ Planning for Higher Education” on 4<sup>th</sup> February 2020.



### **INTERSCHOOL AND COLLEGE PHOTOGRAPHY AND PAINTING COMPETITION**

- Zoology department in association with BhoomithraSena Club conducted an Inter School & College Photography & Painting competition (Brush and Lens) as part of Wildlife week 2K19 on an the Theme- Wild in the Backyard.



## EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING THROUGH FIELD SURVEYS

- Three of our students, participated in the **Dragon fly Survey at Kole Wetlands, Thrissur** from July 13-14<sup>th</sup>, 2019 . The survey was jointly organized by Kerala Birders, Society for Odonate Studies, Kerala Agricultural University and Kerala Forest Department.



- Aamina Ismail of III B.Sc. Zoology Model 1 participated in the **third Odonate Survey** at Periyar Tiger Reserve, Thekkady from 28<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2019.



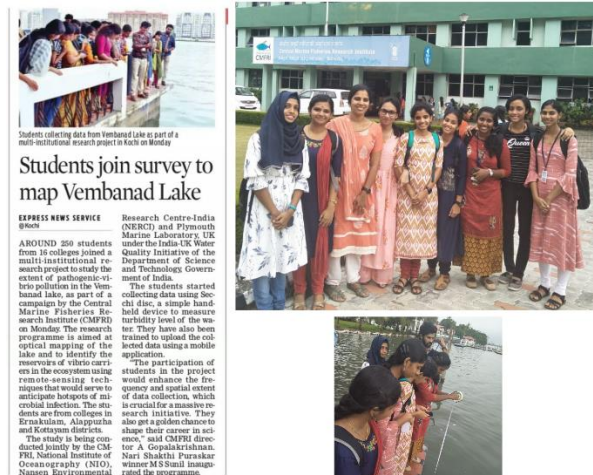
- Students of the department visited **Mangalavanam Bird Sanctuary** on 26<sup>th</sup> September, 2019.



- As part of the experiential learning programme, the department organized programme “**A Forest walk with Birdman of Kerala – Dr. R. Sugathan** at Salim Ali Bird Sanctuary- Thattakkad 29<sup>th</sup> November 2019 as a tribute to the Birdman of India – Dr. Salim Ali on his 123<sup>rd</sup> birthday.



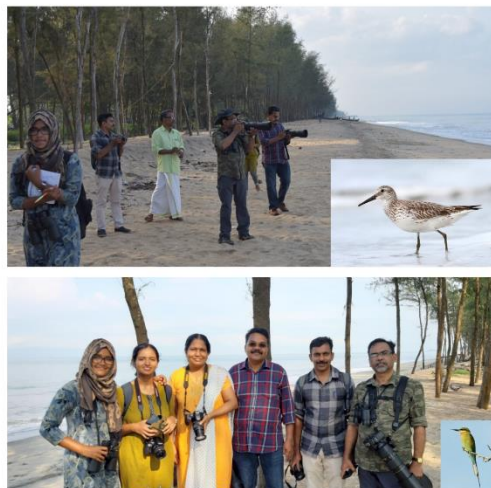
- Eight students along with a faculty of the department participated in the Multi Institutional project on **Mapping pathogenic *Vibrio* Population at Vembanad Lake** at CMFRI, Kochi on 5<sup>th</sup> August 2019.



- Eight students participated in the **Meenachil Odonate Survey** organized by Tropical Institute of Ecological Sciences (TIES) in collaboration with department of Forests and Wildlife, Kerala on 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> December 2019.



- Eight students participated in the **Onam bird count** organized by birdcount.in a citizen science initiative.
- Two students of our department participated in the Beach birding activity titled **Beachcombing for Shore birds** organized by the Cochin Natural History Society at Kuzhuppily, Ernakulam on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2019.



- **Campus Bird Count** was conducted in the college campus as part of Greater Backyard Bird Count from Feb 14-17, 2020. The data of bird counts were uploaded to e-bird a citizen-based bird observation network in the biological sciences.





**Campus Bird Count**  
 A part of the  
 Great Backyard Bird Count India  
 14 - 17 February, 2020

Join over a hundred educational and institutional campuses across India. Count birds that you spot on campus and upload your bird lists to ebird.org/india. To register your campus and for more information, visit [ebirdindia.org/india](http://ebirdindia.org/india).

PLEASE UPLOAD YOUR DATA AT THE HOTSPOT ID: 147182773 FOR ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE FOR WOMEN, ALUPA

**eBird Field Checklist**  
 Alupa - St. Xavier's College for Women  
 Franchin, Kerala, IN  
 ebird.org/hotspot/147182773  
 No species in your list. This count. Current time

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Start Time: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Duration: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Observer: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Party Size: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

This checklist is generated with data from eBird and is part of a global database of bird sightings from 1992 to the present. If you report this checklist, please consider contributing your sightings to eBird. It is crucial for the data part, and your observations will help support habitat, research, and conservation worldwide. Go to [ebird.org](http://ebird.org) to learn more!

**Pigeons and Doves**  
 \_\_\_ Java Pigeon *Columba livia*  
 \_\_\_ Pouterbeak Pigeon *Columba palumbus*  
 \_\_\_ Cuckoo  
 \_\_\_ Greater Cuckoo *Coccyzus coromandus*  
 \_\_\_ Asian Red Cuckoo *Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*  
**Swifts**  
 \_\_\_ Swift sp. *Hirundo sp.*  
**Monarchs**  
 \_\_\_ Red-wattled Lapwing *Vanellus indicus*  
**Gulls, Terns, and Skuas**  
 \_\_\_ Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybridus*  
 \_\_\_ Tern sp. *Sterna sp.*  
**Coronets and Audivas**  
 \_\_\_ Little Cormorant *Microcarbo nigripes*  
 \_\_\_ Cormorant sp. *Phalacrocorax sp.*  
**Herons, Bats, and Allies**  
 \_\_\_ Intermediate Egret *Ardeola intermedia*  
 \_\_\_ Indian Pond Heron *Ardeola grayii*  
 \_\_\_ Black-crowned Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax*  
**Noddies, Boobies, and Allies**  
 \_\_\_ Slaty-tailed Tropicbird *Phaethon rubricauda*  
**Kingfishers**  
 \_\_\_ White-throated Kingfisher *Halcyon leucogaster*  
 \_\_\_ Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis*  
**Robbers and Trogons**  
 \_\_\_ White-throated Robber *Ptilinopus whitei*  
**Manakins**  
 \_\_\_ Black-capped Manakin *Chloropus coromandus*

**Falcons, Parakeets, and Allies**  
 \_\_\_ Red-capped Parakeet *Papoucou coromandus*  
**Drongos**  
 \_\_\_ Greater Black-headed Drongo *Copioa perisoreus*  
**Jays, Magpies, Crows, and Ravens**  
 \_\_\_ Jay *Corvus splendens*  
 \_\_\_ Magpie *Urocyon virens*  
 \_\_\_ Large-billed Crow *Corvus macrorhynchos*  
**Wrens and Swifts**  
 \_\_\_ Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica*  
**Robbets**  
 \_\_\_ Red-whiskered Bulbul *Pycnonotus jerdoni*  
**Starlings and Myias**  
 \_\_\_ Common Myia *Archidives indica*  
**Old World Flycatchers**  
 \_\_\_ Oriental Magpie Robin *Copsychus saularis*  
**Wattlebirds and Spindlers**  
 \_\_\_ Purple-capped Starling *Leptocoma strepera*  
 \_\_\_ Purple Starling *Copsychus saularis*  
 \_\_\_ Green Starling *Copsychus saularis*  
 \_\_\_ Starling sp. *Sturnella sp.* (starling sp.)

## EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

- Rice seedlings planting**

Thirteen students along with two faculty members participated in the planting of rice seedlings in an acre of land at Rice Research Station, Vytilla on July 27th, 2019.



- Navadarshan**

Six sessions of the programme entitled “Junior Scientists” under the auspices of Archdiocese of Verapoly for the secondary school students were carried out by the department as Navadarshan Programme.

- Flood relief activities**

Students and faculty of the department extended humanitarian relief to the land slide affected families in Puthumala, Wayanad.

## INVESTORS MEET

- Students along with a faculty member participated in the Idea challenge Samrambak Mithra competition held at St. Teresa’s College, Ernakulam on 30<sup>th</sup> July, 2019.

### BRIDGE COURSE

- An aptitude test as well as a twenty-hour Bridge Course on “**Instrumentation and Field techniques in Zoology**” was offered for First Year Model I and II students.

### PUBLICATIONS

- Five faculty members of the department contributed towards the study materials and one faculty member was the editor of the same for the undergraduate courses based on the revised curriculum of the M G University. Students were encouraged to publish their research work in peer reviewed journals.
- **Newsletter-** Department newsletter *Nisarga* on the theme *Repentina* was released. It provided an elaborate account of aftermath of Kerala floods 2018.



- **Evolution 2020- A Journey to Zootopia-** Magazine published by students of B.Sc. Zoology Model I sharing their experience during the three years of graduate study at St. Xavier’s College for Women, Aluva

### STUDENT PROGRESSION

- Two of our students of B.Sc. Zoology Model 1 (2016-19) batch, Jesna Davis and Kalyani Dilip got admission for M.S. in Chester University, UK and James Cook University, Australia respectively

## STUDY TOURS AND INSTITUTE VISITS

- Six students and a faculty member of the department visited **National Institute of Oceanography, Kochi** on CSIR Foundation Day on 26<sup>th</sup> September, 2019. Students interacted with scientists of the institute.
- **Final Year B. Sc. Zoology Model 1** – 34 students accompanied by two Teachers Visited Ooty and Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu from 9<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> January 2020.



- **Final year B. Sc Zoology Model II-** 22 Students and two Teachers of the department visited Munnar & Anakulam from 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> January 2020. Students distributed Cloth bags to the tribal community in the visited area.



- **Final Year B.Sc. Zoology Model 1** – 34 students accompanied by two Teachers visited Aquapets Hatchery, Manjapra, Angamaly and Kerala Agricultural University, Mannuthy and College of Veterinary Sciences, Mannuthy on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2019.



### STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Neetha PS** -bagged First Position with A+ for the MG University BSc Zoology Model II examination held in March 2019.
- **Aswani Viswan, Sandra M A, Chithrathara M** along with their mentor **Dr. Revathy S** won First Place in Hackathon at All Kerala ED Club Conclave “Enlight 2020”
- Students of Zoology Department emerged as First runner up in the Zonal ZOOFEST Competition held at Sree Sankara college, Kalady on Jan 30, 2020
- The following students of the department were elected as the college union representatives during 2019 – 2020. Sreelakshmi Sreekumar of III B. Sc Zoology Model – I (UUC) and Afra Mansoor of I B. Sc Zoology Model – I (IDC representative)
- Our students Anjana M (III B.Sc. Zoology Model 1) and Diya Elsa Stephen (I B.Sc. Zoology Model 1) participated in Folk Dance Group event and won First Prize in the M.G. University Youth festival Article 14 held at Al Azhar Group of Institutions, Thodupuzha