

Educational trip to Corbett National Park (4th-7th April 2018)

TEACHER'S ACTIVITY REPORT 2017 - 2018.

FACULTY: Science **DEPARTMENT/ COMMITTEE:** Zoology **IQAC ACTIVITY No:** SVC/2017/18/ZOO/VM-2

NAME OF THE ACTIVITY: Study Trip to Jim Corbett park			
DATE	FACULTY	DEPARTMENT/COMMITTEE	COORDINATOR NAME
4 th - 7 th April, 2018	Science	Department of Zoology	Dr. Vartika Mathur
TIME	VENUE	NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS	NATURE: Outdoor/Indoor
NA	Study Trip to Corbett National Park, Uttarakhand	18	Outdoor
SUPPORT/ASSISTANCE:	NA (No funding)		

BRIEF INFORMATION ABOUT THE ACTIVITY (CRITERION NO. - III):

TOPIC/SUBJECT OF THE ACTIVITY	Study Trip to Corbett National Park
OBJECTIVES	To learn various techniques used in wildlife management
METHODOLOGY	Students were trained for various techniques used in wildlife monitoring, conservation and management by forest officers. They were made to perform all techniques in the protected areas and assess real evidences of wildlife. During safari, students were taught to identify birds and their nests.
OUTCOMES	Students received a hands-on training in the protected area from forest officers for various wildlife techniques such as trail/transect method, ground cover assessment, identifying direct and indirect evidences such as pug marks, scat, hoof marks and antlers and learning about equipment used in wildlife management such as camera traps, range finder, GPS, compass. Students also learnt about MSTRiPS, the software for monitoring tigers in protected areas.

PROOFS & DOCUMENTS ATTACHED (Tick mark the proofs attached):

Notice & Letters ✓	Student list of participation ✓	Activity report	Photos ✓	Feedback form
Feedback analysis	News clip with details	Certificate	Any other	

IQAC Document No:	Criterion No: III	Metric No:
Departmental file no	IQAC file No;	

NAME OF TEACHER & SIGNATURE	NAME OF HEAD/ COMMITTEE INCHARGE & SIGNATURE	IQAC COORDINATOR (SEAL & SIGNATURE)
Dr. Vartika Mathur	Dr. Vartika Mathur	

For Reference

Criterion I	Curricular Aspects (planning & Implementation)	Criterion V	Student Support & Progression
Criterion II	Teaching Learning & Evaluation	Criterion VI	Governance
Criterion III	Research, Innovations & Extension	Criterion VII	Institutional Values & Best Practices
Criterion IV	Learning Resources and Infrastructure		

Proofs

Trip Report

Educational trip to Corbett National Park (4th-7th April, 2018)

under the course 'Wildlife Conservation and Management' for BSc (H) Zoology Semester VI



The students of class of BSc (H) Zoology Semester VI was taken on an educational excursion to the Corbett National Park, Uttarakhand, in order to enhance their understanding of their chosen DSE - Wildlife Conservation and Management. We reached Ramnagar railway station on 4th April 2018 and escorted in gypsies to the Ecotourism Centre, Choonakhan, where we were warmly greeted by the Range forest office, Mr. Santosh Pant. He ensured that we were well settled and gave us instructions for the trainings we were to go through the next day.



Day 1: The excursion began at 5.30am on April 5, 2018, with an early morning trail transect at the Barwa beat in Bailparao range where we all looked for carnivore and mega herbivore signs. The commonly found carnivores in Corbett National Park are tigers, leopards and bears and the only mega herbivore in the area is the wild elephant. Signs such as tiger's pug marks, rake marks and scat, elephant's footprints and dung and many other ungulate hoof-marks and fecal matter were observed. Even though, observing the signs of ungulates was not the aim of the exercise, it was noted nevertheless. We also spotted a running jackal while on the trail. This exercise also taught us the importance of using compass and GPS in trail monitoring.

Following this, we were engaged in a very interesting interaction with Mr. Surendra Mehra, Director, Corbett National Park, who talked about the establishment of the National Park and its establishment, its ranges, extent and the responsibilities of forest officers in the National Park. He also talked about wildlife management challenges and the officers deal with them. This was followed by a vibrant discussion on various issues between Mr. Mehra and the inquisitive and enthusiastic students.

This was followed by a series of lectures about tracking and trailing, crafts of forest, GIS mapping and Conservation techniques by Ms. Anam Ahsan, JRF at the National Park. She also demonstrated the basic equipments that are used in wildlife studies including compass, rangefinder, camera trap etc. In late afternoon, we went out in the field on a 2km line transect to measure the abundance of prey species in the area. Here we learned how to make observations on the field using GPS, range finder and compass to determine the distance of our transect from the prey species. On the same transect, we also assessed the vegetation cover (forest tree canopy, shrub as well as ground cover assessment) via a method made for vegetation sampling, which is similar to quadrat method of vegetation sampling. This method of vegetation assessment is used by forest officers at every 400 m length mark of the 2 km transect and then extrapolated to the whole range.



Day 2: In the morning on April 6, 2018, we learnt about avian fauna monitoring and identification and point count method via presentations on protected areas by Ms. Anam Ahsan. After the sessions, we left for Dhikala from the guest house in Ramnagar we were staying in so far.

Soon after reaching our campsite, we left for a safari in the jungle. On the beautifully diverse safari, we encountered a lot of wildlife including a wide range of avian fauna that we identified using the bird guide. We had close encounters with wild elephants, spotted some clumsily running wild boars and 3 different deer species, viz. Sambhar, Chital and Barking deer. We learnt how to identify and differentiate between numerous species of birds and deer in field.

Upon returning from the safari, a couple of movies were screened for our benefit. The first documentary was all about Corbett National Park, its history, expansion, habitat, the fauna present

and much more. The second movie, Man-eating Tigers, portrayed the potentially fatal side of the tigers. It was a spine-chilling documentary about the issue of animal-wildlife conflict at National Parks such as Sundarbans and Corbett.

Day 3: Day three began with an early morning safari, this time we were focused more on spotting a tiger. While on our search for the beast, we encountered another group of people in safari, who excitedly reported sighting a tigress really close by, just before she disappeared into the sea of trees. We all gathered at the point where she was expected to exit the canopy of trees and walk to her usual place for drinking water. Everyone patiently waited for the tigress to show, ready with our equipment to capture a glimpse of her.



However, it wasn't our day. The tigress decided to stay hidden. Some disappointed, and others still energetic, all returned back to campsite the DFO, Mr. Vinod Bisht explained to us how they survey animals around the jungle and how well-coordinated the monitoring needs to be. He gave us first-hand account of how problems such as poaching and forest fire may arise in a forest and how they tackle them. Guided by him, we saw the Museum that displayed the history of Corbett National Park and the adjoining library which housed amazing books on wildlife.

Soon after, we left Dhikala, happy with our findings and got to the Tiger cell in Ramnagar. Ms. Anam Ahsan greeted us there with her team and demonstrated the softwares Mstripes and Extract Compare Software that they use to monitor the jungle, to keep a count of animals and to keep a track of the areas that have not been covered by patrolling officers while surveying the population. M-STriPES (Monitoring System for Tigers- Intensive Protection and Ecological Status), a proprietary software developed to keep track of tigers and their prey. Census is used to keep track of deer and tiger population. They showed us how they use this software and how these help forest rangers to track the movement of deer populations and with that, they can track the movement of tiger also.

This concluded our extremely informative trip to Jim Corbett National Park. We rested in a hotel room and later boarded our train back to the concrete jungle we call home.

To
The Principal
Sri Venkateswara College
Dhaura Kuan
University of Delhi
New Delhi-110021

14th March 2018

Subject: Permission to take students for wildlife training

Dear Madam,

As you are aware, students BSc (H) Zoology Semester VI have "Wildlife conservation and management" as a DSE subject. According to the course curriculum, they are required to have a field visit to protected area. I am happy to inform you that the Director, Jim Corbett National Park and Tiger reserve, has agreed to hold a 3-day training for our students from 4 to 7 April 2018, based on their curriculum. ¶

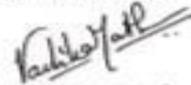
I would appreciate if you could kindly permit me to take the students for this training and take duty leave for that period.

The list of students accompanying me is as follows:

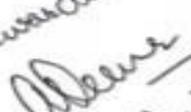
2015002	Yukti	2015034	Amrita
2015005	Soham	2015038	Khushboo
2015011	Mrigya	2015044	Monika
2015013	Urja	2015046	Rohit
2015014	Akhil	2015047	Taruna
2015018	Aparna	2015049	Vaibhav
2015025	Aishwarya	2015050	Himanshu
2015026	Kavita	2015052	Vivek
2015028	Saiyami		

Thank you

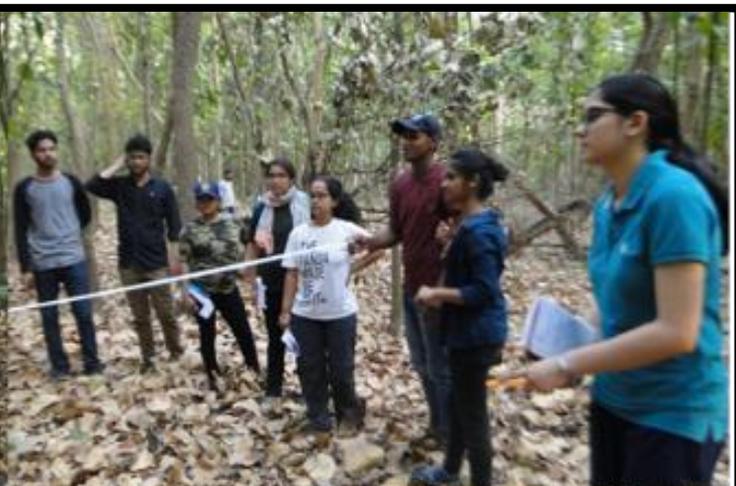
Yours sincerely,


Dr. Vartika Mathur
Dept. of Zoology

Recommended & Forwarded


Dr. Anita Verma

Permitted

College Name: Sri Venkateswara College

ACTIVITY: Study Trip to Jim Corbett Park

Date: 4th-7th April, 2018

Time: NA

Venue: Jim Corbett National

Criterion No: ~~I/II~~ III/ ~~V/VII~~

Sr. No.	Name of the Participants	Affiliation
1.	Yukti	B.Sc. (H) Zoology Semester VI
2.	Soham	B.Sc. (H) Zoology Semester VI
3.	Mrigya	B.Sc. (H) Zoology Semester VI
4.	Urja	B.Sc. (H) Zoology Semester VI
5.	Akhil	B.Sc. (H) Zoology Semester VI
6.	Aparna	B.Sc. (H) Zoology Semester VI
7.	Aishwarya	B.Sc. (H) Zoology Semester VI
8.	Kavita	B.Sc. (H) Zoology Semester VI
9.	Saiyami	B.Sc. (H) Zoology Semester VI
10.	Amrita	B.Sc. (H) Zoology Semester VI
11.	Khushboo	B.Sc. (H) Zoology Semester VI
12.	Monika	B.Sc. (H) Zoology Semester VI
13.	Rohit	B.Sc. (H) Zoology Semester VI
14.	Taruna	B.Sc. (H) Zoology Semester VI
15.	Vaibhav	B.Sc. (H) Zoology Semester VI
16.	Himanshu	B.Sc. (H) Zoology Semester VI
17.	Vivek	B.Sc. (H) Zoology Semester VI
18.	Dr Vartika Mathur	Assistant Professor, Department of Zoology

Name of the Teacher and signature

Head of the Department

Certificate of submission



SRI VENKATESWARA COLLEGE (University of Delhi)

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Department of Physics

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Dr. Swarn Singh
Department of Mathematics

Dr. Neeraj Sahay
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Dr. Vartika Mathur
Department of Zoology

Dr. Shruti Mathur
Department of Commerce

Dr. Padma Priyadarshini
Department of Sociology

Dr. Nimisha Sinha
Department of Biochemistry

Shri D. Venkat Ramana
A.O(I/C)

This is to certify that the Activity report (Teacher/Department /Society/Association) has been submitted for documentation to IQAC, Sri Venkateswara College, University of Delhi.

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