



REPORT ON



VEERANGANA DURGAVATI TIGER RESERVE TOUR



Prof. Neelima Gupta
Vice Chancellor
DHSGSU



Prof. Versha Sharma
Dean, School of Biological Sciences
DHSGSU



Prof. Shweta Yadav
Convener
Head, Department of Zoology
DHSGSU



Dr. Shashwat Singh
Coordinator



Dr. Sandeep Kumar
Co-coordinator



Submitted by
DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY
DR. HARISINGH GOUR VISHAWVIDYALA
(A CENTRAL UNIVERSITY)
SAGAR-M.P., 470003, INDIA

Tour Report

1. Title of the tour:

Visit to the Veerangana Durgavati tiger reserve (formally called as Naurade hi Wildlife Sanctuary), Sagar

2. Day and Date:

Tuesday, 8th of April, 2025

3. Purpose of the Tour:

The primary objective of the tour was providing students the opportunity to observe wildlife in their natural habitats. The visit aimed to highlight the importance of protected areas, the ecological role of wildlife, and the significance of conservation efforts. Additionally, the tour sought to ignite research interest among students and introduce them to potential career opportunities in the field of wildlife and environmental studies. It also served as an introductory exposure to the fundamentals of ecological studies.

4. Participant:

Faculty members:	Dr. Malvika Sikdar; Dr. Deepali Jat; Dr. Shashwat Singh (Coordinator); Dr. Sandeep Kumar (Co-coordinator); Dr. Smita Shukla; Dr. Kashmeera N. A.; Dr. Somnath Ghosh; Dr. Brijesh K Maurya
M.Sc. II semester students:	Abhiram Pradhan; Aditi Lal; Anita Ahirwal; Ankit Soni; Anshul Soni; Ashish Kumar Sahu; Ayushi Singh; Chandni Kumari; Divya Pandey; Hitendra Kumar Sahu Jyotirmayee Behera; Kishan Kumar Mourya; Krishna Murari; Kriti Rastogi Lalit Prajapati ; Md Zishan Arshad; Neeraj Kapoor; Neeraj Kol; Priyanka Yadav Sariful Mondal; Shikha Kumari; Shikha Upadhyay ; Shivani; Shrivastava Sonmati; Tanya Yadav; Umang Verma; Vikash Athiya and Vikash Kumar
Supporting Staff:	Mr. Mohit S Rathore (Lab Assistant); Mr. Nand Kishore (Lab Attendant)

5. Detailed Summary:

One day educational tour was organized for M.Sc. Semester II students to the nearby Veerangana Durgavati Tiger Reserve (formerly known as Naura Dahi Wildlife Sanctuary), under the convenorship of Professor Shweta Yadav (Head of the Department), and coordinated by Dr. Shashwat Singh and Dr. Sandeep Kumar. Preparations commenced with an initial formal meeting held in the office of the Head of the Department to discuss the overall expedition.

The field tour for PG students was organized on 8th April 2025, following due consultation and approval from the Divisional Forest Officer, Naura Dahi Forest Division. Prior to the trip, an orientation meeting was conducted by the organizing team to brief students on the requirements and guidelines for the tour. Students were advised to wear appropriate attire including trekking suits, sturdy shoes, caps, and other essentials suitable for the safari and field activities.

The group departed from the department promptly at 6:15 AM, with all students and faculty members arriving at the departure point on time—demonstrating commendable discipline and punctuality, which set a positive tone for the success of the tour. A light refreshment were served to all the participants. The 1.5 hours long journey was filled with great enthusiasm. Students engaged in interactive activities such as *antakshari*, creating a lively and cheerful atmosphere on board. Amidst the enjoyment, meaningful discussions were also held regarding the significance of such educational tours in a students carrier. With a spirit of excitement and curiosity the group successfully arrived at the destination.

The officials from the forest department extended full cooperation and warmly welcomed the entire group. The arrangements made by the department were highly organized and disciplined. For safari ride, the participant were divided into seven groups, each consisting of four students and three staff members and were accompanied by an official guide from the forest department. The safari commenced with a visit to the Control Centre, located within the core zone of the Veerangana Durgavati Tiger Reserve, a site known for its scenic natural beauty. 15 to 20 minutes bird watching was done using the telescopes provided to the each group. This activity allowed students to observe a number of bird species. Following this session, Mr. Neeraj Bissen, the Range Officer from the

Forest Department, delivered a brief but informative lecture. He delivered a detailed briefing on the establishment and the recent developments of the Veerangana Durgavati Tiger Reserve. He provided valuable insights into its geographical layout, explaining that the reserve spans across three districts—Sagar, Damoh, and Narsinghpur—and is divided into nine ranges. He also shared updates on the monitoring and sensing procedures currently in place, emphasizing the technological and strategic methods used for wildlife tracking and habitat assessment. Furthermore, he presented statistical data on the diversity of species found within the reserve, highlighting its rich biodiversity. Towards the end of the session, he encouraged young M.Sc. students to take a keen interest in field biology. As a motivational gesture, he extended an invitation to volunteer for the upcoming Tiger and Vulture Sensing Program, scheduled to take place within the next three to four months.

Following the lecture, each group proceeded along different routes for animal watching activity. The groups explored different routes in the reserve, covering an area of approximately 35 kilometers for wild animal watching. All the groups were advised to count the different species of the animals, they observe, an activity to study the fundamentals of biological diversity, hence an attempt to develop observation, ecological data collection and analytic skill among them. The wildlife observation activity lasted for approximately 1 to 1.5 hours. Despite the slight warm weather, enthusiasm and curiosity of the participants made the hours enjoyable and fruitful.

Upon the completion of safari ride, all participants gathered at the forest department guest house. After a short break, lunch was served at the sanctuary guest house with the support of the local forest management committee (Van Smiti). The meal featured a variety of local delicacies, including seasonal vegetables, dal, rice, and a flavorful green salad. Post lunch, an interactive discussion was held, focusing on the various aspects of the wildlife and tiger reserve. This was followed by capturing the memorable moments forever, the photography session. It was the time to thank the forest department officials and depart to the campus.

6. Field Observations

The Veerangana Durgavat tiger reserve previously known as Nauradahi wild life sanctuary spans parts of Sagar, Damoh, and Narsinghpur districts, covering an area of over 2,339 square kilometers, with a core area of around 1,414 sq. km and a buffer zone of approximately 925 sq. km in the Madhy Pradesh state of India. It is a wildlife corridor between the Panna Tiger Reserve and Satpura Tiger Reserve. Apart from the tiger, the reserve supports diverse wildlife, **the leopards, sloth bears, Indian wolves, hyenas**, a wide range of avian diversity, including both migratory and resident birds. The wild life observed during the present visit are mentioned under sun heading.

- I. **Major floral elements:** Teak *Tectona grandis* (Teak); *Diospyros melanoxylon* (Tendu) *Terminalia tomentosa* (Saja), *Boswellia serrata* (Salai) and grasses were the dominant floral elements observed during the trip.



Major vegetation of tiger reserve

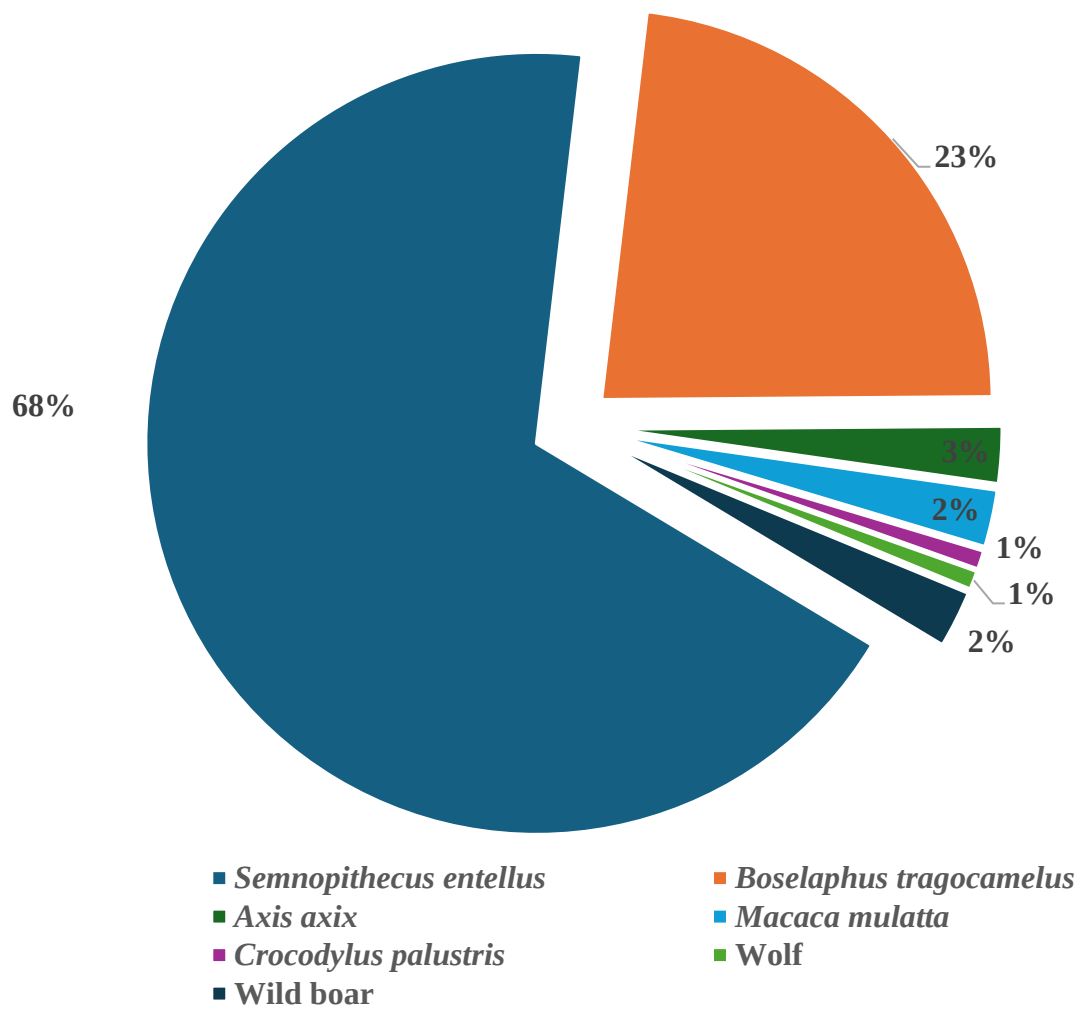
II. Avifauna

The protected area supports a rich avifaunal diversity from small birds to the large migratory ones. The birds species observed during the visit were *Spilornis cheela* (Crested Serpent Eagle), *Pelargopsis capensis* (Stork-billed Kingfisher), *Leptoptilos dubius* (Adjutant Stork), Bee eater (meropidae) European species.



Avian fauna and termitaria of the tiger reserve

Semnopithecus entellus (Grey Indian Langur), *Boselaphus tragocamelus* (Nilgai, Blue bull), *Macaca mulatta* (Rhesus macaque), Deer, Wild Boar, and *Crocodylus palustris*, Wolf were the common wild life observed during the wildlife watching. Since, these were countable, the relative abundance was worked out to determine the distribution pattern of the wildlife in the reserve.



Relative abundance of the wildlife species observed during the tour

- *Semnopithecus entellus* was recorded as the dominant animal while *Boselaphus tragocamelus* as sub-dominant.



Semnopithecus entellus
(Grey Indian Langur)



Boselaphus tragocamelus (Nilgai)



Wild boar



Axis axis (Chital deer)

IV. Aquatic Biota: The water bodies inside the reserve were also told to harbor the fish fauna. The reptilian species of crocodile was observed through the visible path marks along the banks.



Visuals during the safari ride



Visuals showing different momentss

Students Reviews for the visit



"It was a great experience watching animals this close. Learnt many things about their behavioral and ecological aspect. Thanks to the department for conducting the visit"

-Kriti Rastogi



"In Situ Biodiversity Conservation sites always gave us a thrilling experience and this tour was nonetheless. This tour will always be scintillating in my eyes"

-Umang Verma



"It was a fascinating blend of education and adventure in the wild. Learned the value of Biodiversity conservation and sustainability. I thank department for this wonderful experience."

-Kishan K Maurya



"Nauradehi wildlife sanctuary is a truly magical place for nature lovers! we saw a variety of wildlife including many birds and animals species. The sanctuary staff were also very knowledgeable and the overall atmosphere was peaceful and serene. Thanks to the department for conducting the visit."

-Shikha



"It was truly unforgettable—especially the insight into vultures! Knowing that 7 out of 9 species are already in MP, with 3 migratory ones completing the count, filled me with pride and a deepened passion for wildlife conservation. This journey has sparked a new curiosity in me for animal behavior and conservation—hoping God shows me the right path ahead."

-Priyanka Yadav



"This was a surreal experience which gave me a life time memory. This visit to VDTR was emaculate, full with fun along with knowledge"

-Ayushi Singh



"It is a very effective methodology adopted by our zoology department. It will be very helpful for us to generate a scientific approach, awareness of the environment and problem-solving skills. Thank you for arranging the educational tour."

-Ashish



"It was a truly memorable visit. The freshness of the protected area made me feel calm and connected to nature. This field visit was not only helpful for my studies, but it also gave me a deeper respect for forests and wildlife. It made me more interested in learning about and protecting our environment".

-Ashish Kumar Sahu



"It was a wonderful experience. Being close to nature and watching wild animals in their natural habitat was truly thrilling. This trip not only provided entertainment but also raised awareness about the environment"

-Chandani

"Nauradehi wildlife sanctuary is a truly magical place for nature lovers! We saw a variety of wildlife including many birds and animals species. The sanctuary staff were also very knowledgeable and the overall atmosphere was peaceful and serene. Thanks to the department for conducting the visit"

-Jyoti



"It was educational tour, thanks to the department of zoology that offers a unique opportunity to observe and learn about diverse animal species in a protected natural environment, often guided by experts who share insight in to conservation efforts and wildlife behavior"

-Shikha



"It was a very exciting and adventurous tour, especially for us as a student of zoology. It will be helpful for me in various ecological fields in the upcoming future. Thank you for arranging the trip to experience the scenic beauty of wildlife in their natural environment"

-Neeraj Kapoor

Official Document

OFFICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY
 (प्राणी विज्ञान विभाग, एम.एस.ए.सी.)
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Prof. Shweta Yadav
 Head of Department



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Date : 02.04.2025

NOTICE

Dear Faculty Members,

This is to bring to your kind notice that the Department of Zoology is organizing a one-day educational tour to Nauradadi Wildlife Sanctuary on 8th April 2025. The tour will commence at 6:00 AM from the department premises.

This tour aims to provide our M.Sc. students with a valuable opportunity to experience firsthand the fauna and flora of the Bundelkhand region. As esteemed faculty members, your participation will significantly enrich the students' learning experience by sharing your knowledge and expertise on the diverse wildlife and ecological aspects of the sanctuary.

The approximate contribution towards the tour expenses by each faculty member is Rs. 2000, which may be adjusted after finalizing the overall cost.

Your cooperation and support in making this tour a fruitful and insightful experience for our students will be highly appreciated. Kindly confirm your participation at the earliest.

Looking forward to your positive response.

Prof. Shweta Yadav
 Head Department of Zoology
 MSU, Sagar

For Co-ordinator:
Dr. Chakravel Singh
Dr. Sandeep Kumar



**DOCTOR HARISINGH GOUR VISHAWVIDYALA
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EDUCATIONAL TOUR

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY

OFFICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY
डीक्टर हरिशिंग गौर विश्वविद्यालय, सागर (म.प्र.)
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Prof. Shweta Yadav
Head of Department



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Date: 04.04.2025

10,
Divisional Forest Officer
Nauradehi Wildlife Sanctuary
Sagar, Madhya Pradesh, India

Subject: Request for Assistance and Safari Tour Arrangement for Educational Visit to
Nauradehi Wildlife Sanctuary.

Respected Sir,

I am writing to inform you that the Department of Zoology, Dr. Harishing Gour
Vishwaavidyalaya (A Central University) Sagar (M.P.), India, is organizing an educational tour
to Nauradehi Wildlife Sanctuary on April 8, 2025, around 8:00 AM. A group of
approximately 45 individuals, including students, faculty members, and non-teaching staff,
will be participating in this visit to gain practical exposure to wildlife conservation, ecology,
and biodiversity.

In this regard, I kindly seek your guidance and support to facilitate the visit. I wish to
hire safari vehicles for the tour to ensure that every participant can experience the sanctuary's
rich biodiversity in a structured manner. Additionally, if possible, we would appreciate any
assistance in terms of expert guidance, an orientation session, or any other necessary
arrangements that could enhance the educational value of this visit.

I would be grateful for any help or cooperation that your department can provide to ensure
a smooth and informative experience for our students.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Bus- MP15 PA 1054

Faculty

Dr. Shashwat Singh
Mob: 8982369825
Dr. Sandeep Kumar

Prof. Shweta Yadav
Mob
Signature of Head of Department of Zoology
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