



Dr. Harisingh Gour Vishwavidyalaya, Sagar (M.P.) India
“A Central University”

Report on the invited lecture:
Advancing Wildlife Forensics through
Molecular Taxonomy



Patron
Prof. Y. S. Thakur,
Hon'ble Vice Chancellor



Advisor
Prof. Versha Sharma
Dean, School of Biological



Convenor
Prof. Shweta Yadav
Head, Department of Zoology



Coordinator
Dr Sandeep Kumar
Assistant Professor

Date: 28th November 2025

Time: 12:00 PM – 01:00 PM

Organized by
Department of Zoology
Dr. Harisingh Gour Vishwavidyalaya, Sagar (M.P.), India
“A Central University”



Invited Speaker

Dr. S.K. Gupta

Scientist – F,

Head, Department of Animal Ecology and Conservation Biology
Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun, India

Prof. S. K. Gupta is Scientist–F at the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun, and a leading authority in wildlife forensics, conservation, and evolutionary genetics. With over 80 publications in journals like Nature Communications and Molecular Ecology, his research has advanced biodiversity protection and influenced conservation policies for species such as tigers, musk deer, and Gangetic dolphins. He has strengthened India's wildlife forensic capabilities, aiding law enforcement against illegal trade, and contributed to academic leadership as editor and reviewer for international journals. A global collaborator and mentor, he has guided numerous Ph.D. and M.Sc. scholars, leaving a lasting legacy at the intersection of science, justice, and conservation.

Session Overview

The Department of Zoology hosted an insightful invited lecture on *Advancing Wildlife Forensics through Molecular Taxonomy*, delivered by Dr. S.K. Gupta, a leading expert in animal ecology and conservation biology. The session aimed to deepen understanding of molecular tools in wildlife crime investigation and biodiversity conservation.

The event commenced with a formal welcome address by **Dr. Shashwat Singh**, followed by a ceremonial greeting of the guest with a **shawl and floral bouquet** presented by **Dr. Malvika Sikdar (In charge head)** and **Dr. R. K. Koiri**. **Dr. Sandeep Kumar** introduced the speaker with a brief biography highlighting Dr. Gupta's contributions to wildlife forensics and ecological research.

Lecture Highlights

Dr. Gupta's lecture covered the following key areas:

- **Fundamentals of Taxonomy:** An overview of classical taxonomy and its limitations in forensic contexts.
- **Techniques in Molecular Taxonomy:** Introduction to DNA barcoding, PCR, sequencing methods, and genetic markers used in species identification.
- **Significance in Wildlife Forensics:** Emphasis on how molecular taxonomy aids in solving wildlife crime cases, identifying illegally traded species, and supporting legal proceedings.
- **Case Studies and Visual Demonstrations:** Real-life examples of crime investigations conducted by the Wildlife Institute of India were shared, including video presentations that illustrated the application of molecular tools in field and lab settings.
- **Interactive Segment**
- The session concluded with an engaging **question answer and brainstorming session**, where students and faculty posed thoughtful questions on the ethical, legal, and technical aspects of wildlife forensics. Dr. Gupta encouraged interdisciplinary collaboration and highlighted the need for skilled professionals in this emerging field.

The lecture was a resounding success, enriching participants with cutting-edge knowledge and practical insights. It reinforced the importance of molecular taxonomy in wildlife conservation and inspired students to explore careers in forensic biology and ecological research.

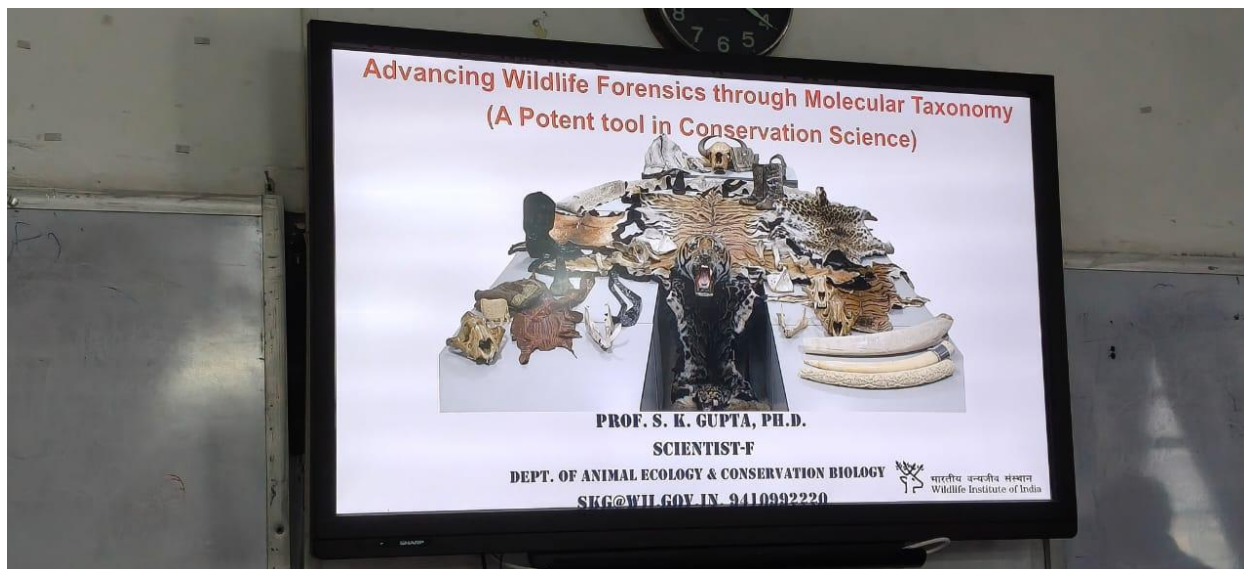
A photography session was conducted after the lecture ended.

Conclusion

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on
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Event Visuals and Flyer