

Department of Zoology
Report on Field Work

**Field Study on Behavioural Attributes of Ghost Crabs at Talsari (Odisha)
and Digha (West Bengal) Beach on Bay of Bengal**

- **DATE OF VISIT:** 02.04.2022 to 04.04.2022
- **PLACE OF VISIT:** Talsari, Odisha and Digha, West Bengal
- **NO. OF PARTICIPANTS:**
 - Teachers – 3
 - Non-Teaching Staff – 1
 - Students – 25 (Semester VI, Zoology Hons.)
- **SUMMARY:** Crustaceans play a significant role in regulating the structure and function of marine ecosystems. Among the marine shore/off-shore crabs, the Ghost Crab, (Genus *Ocypode*), also called sand crab are widespread in shallow shores and intertidal regions of Talsari. Members of this genus are noted for their running speed and burrow making signatures. These crabs display extensive dispersal along sandy-beach and are of high importance because of their roles as both predators and beach scavengers to maintain the health of their habitats. In the current trip, students learned to study behavioural attributes of the Ghost Crabs, in accordance to the positional movement of Sun, starting from Sunrise to Sunset were recorded. They also learned to estimate different environmental parameters of the Talsari Sea Beach, which was done at three different hours of a day - sunrise, sunshine and sunset. Furthermore, the students recorded alterations in behavioural attitude of the ghost crab with change in environmental parameters. In a nutshell, students had a firsthand experience to study ethological parameters – which is an integral part of Zoology.

GEO-TAGGED PHOTOS:



ATTESTED



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