

6. Report on Extension Activity: Marine PBR Survey

Date: May 2024

Venue: Kadalundi Gramapanchayat

The Department of Zoology, in collaboration with the **Unnat Bharat Abhiyan Unit** of the college, the **Kerala Biodiversity Board**, and the **Kadalundi Gramapanchayat**, conducted a **Marine People's Biodiversity Register (PBR) Survey**. This initiative highlighted the department's commitment to conserving marine biodiversity and empowering the local community with scientific knowledge.

Objectives of the Activity

- To document the rich marine biodiversity of Kadalundi and its surrounding areas.
- To involve local stakeholders in understanding and conserving their biodiversity.
- To create a comprehensive Marine PBR, serving as a resource for sustainable management and conservation.

Highlights of the Survey

1. Collaborative Effort:

The survey was a joint venture involving multiple stakeholders:

- Zoology students and faculty contributed scientific expertise.
- The Unnat Bharat Abhiyan Unit ensured active community participation.
- The Kerala Biodiversity Board provided technical and logistical support.
- Local leaders and residents of Kadalundi Gramapanchayat shared traditional knowledge and insights about the marine ecosystem.

2. Field Survey Activities:

- Documentation of marine flora and fauna, including fishes, mollusks, crustaceans, and seaweeds.
- Assessment of ecosystem services provided by mangroves and estuarine regions.
- Identification of threats such as habitat degradation, pollution, and overfishing.

3. Community Engagement:

Workshops and interactive sessions were held with local fishermen and residents to gather traditional ecological knowledge. Awareness programs emphasized the importance of biodiversity conservation and sustainable fishing practices.

4. Data Compilation:

The data collected during the survey was systematically recorded to prepare the Marine People's Biodiversity Register (PBR). This register will serve as an official document for biodiversity conservation planning in the region.

Outcomes of the Activity

- Successful documentation of marine species and ecological data for the PBR.
- Strengthened collaboration between academic institutions, government bodies, and local communities.
- Enhanced awareness among residents about the need for sustainable biodiversity practices.
- Practical learning experience for students in fieldwork and community-based conservation efforts.



