



**S.N. Mor College of Arts and Commerce and Smt. G.D. Saraf
Science College, Tumsar-4419012, Dist. Bhandara (MS)**

Department of Zoology
(‘AZooBa’- Association of Zoology Bachelors)

Report: ‘Field visit- an outreach Activity’ (10th October 2024)

As per the RTM Nagpur University syllabus of B.Sc. 5th semester, students are required to collect and study the insect pests and their natural enemies from nearby fields. Most of the students of this college belong to poor farmer family of nearby villages. Bhandara district is known as the ‘Rice Bowl’ of Maharashtra state. The main crop of this region is rice (*Oryza sativa*) which is frequently attacked by many insect pests resulting in low production of rice. The farmers often use pesticides in their fields for the control of insect pests. The farmers do not know the types of insects (useful and harmful) found in their fields and spray any kind of pesticides which result in loss of money, killing of natural enemies of pests and causing environmental pollution. Keeping all these issues in mind, the department of Zoology organized field visit in the nearby rice fields on **10th October 2024** to study the insect pests and their natural enemies in their natural habitats.

Thirty-five students of B.Sc. 5th semester and **2 staff members** have participated in the field study. Students surveyed 6 different rice fields of Hasara village and observed many pest insects and their natural enemies. Some insects are brought to the Zoology laboratory, killed in ether, identified, and preserved in 80 % ethyl alcohol and some insects are dry preserved in plastic boxes.



Field visit- Study of insect pests and their natural enemies in rice fields by B.Sc. Sem V students

