



Faculty Details Proforma for Website

Name	Dr. ASHISH THOMAS	
Designation & Department	Assistant Professor Department of Environmental Studies Sri Guru Nanak Dev Khalsa College	
Date of Joining the institution	9 September 2015 (ad-hoc) 30 October 2023 (permanent)	
Date of Birth	16 October 1982	
Current Address	G-204, Kaveri Apartments, Plot No 4, Sector 6, Dwarka, Delhi 110075	
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Educational Qualifications		
Degree	Institution	Year
PhD	Department of Environmental Studies, University of Delhi	2014
MSc	University of Delhi	2006
BSc	Zakir Husain Delhi College, University of Delhi	2004

Administrative Assignments
Department of Environmental Studies, University of Delhi
1. Working group member: LOCF based syllabus revision committee for EVS (March-May 2019)
2. Working group member: UGCF based syllabus revision committee for EVS (June-August 2022)

Sri Guru Nanak Dev Khalsa College, University of Delhi

College Committees

1. Convenor: Academic Development Committee (2025-2027)
2. Convenor: Purchase Committee (2023-2025)
3. Member: Internal Quality Assurance Cell (2020-2021, 2023-2024, 2025-2026)
4. Member: Grievance Redressal Committee (2025-2026)
5. Member: Internal Complaints Committee (2024-2026)
6. Member: Purchase committee (2017-2022, 2025-2027)
7. Member: Maintenance Committee (2023-2025, 2025-2027)
8. Member: E-waste and scrap committee (2023-2027)
9. Member: Sports committee (2017-2019)
10. Member: Annual day organising committee (2017, 2018, 2019)
11. Member: E-waste disposal committee (2016)
12. Member: Refreshment Committee (2019 – 2021)



College societies

1. **Convenor:** EnviSAGE, The Environmental Society (2020 – 2026)
2. **Co-convenor:** EnviSAGE, The Environmental Society (2026 onwards)
3. **Convenor:** PHOTOBUG, The Photography Society (2016 – 2022)
4. **Co-convenor:** Cyberclan, The Tech society (2017 – 2019)

Areas of Specialization

Ecology, Animal Behavior, Evolutionary Biology, Biodiversity and Conservation

Subjects Taught

Undergraduate level

- Environmental Science (AECC)
- Environmental Science Theory into Practice – I (2022 onwards)
- Environmental Science: Theory into Practice – II. (2023 onwards)

Publications Profile (Articles/ Books Published/ Books Edited)

Author metrics

Scopus

Citations: 229; h-index: 7 (till December 2024)

Google Scholar

Citations: 289; h-index: 7; i10-index: 7 (till December 2024)

ORCID

<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-0189-7580>

Research papers published in Scopus indexed Journals

- Megha Srigyan, Abdus Samad, Abhishek Singh, Jyotsana Karan, Abhishek Chandra, Pooja Sinha, Vineeth Kumar, Sandeep Das, **Ashish Thomas**, Robin Suyesh. (2024). Vocal repertoire of *Microhyla nilphamariensis* from Delhi and comparison with closely related *M. ornata* populations from the western coast of India and Sri Lanka. *PeerJ* 12: e16903 <http://doi.org/10.7717/peerj.16903>
- Sandeep Das, PS Esau, Nithin Divakar, **Ashish Thomas** and Benjamin Tapley (2021). Predators of the evolutionarily distinct and globally endangered Indian Purple frog, *Nasikabatrachus sahyadrensis*. *Herpetology Notes* 14: 247-249
- **Ashish Thomas**, Sandeep Das, Kumar Manish (2019). Influence of stream habitat variables on distribution and abundance of tadpoles of the endangered Purple frog, *Nasikabatrachus sahyadrensis* (Anura: Nasikabatrachidae). **Journal of Asia-Pacific Biodiversity** 12 (2), pp 144-151
- Gayani Senevirathne, **Ashish Thomas**, Ryan Kerney, James Hanken, SD Biju, Madhava Meegaskumbura (2016). From clinging to digging: the postembryonic skeletal ontogeny of the Indian Purple Frog, *Nasikabatrachus sahyadrensis*. **PLoS ONE**, 11(3): e0151114. [doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0151114](http://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0151114)



- SD Biju, Gayani Senevirathne, Sonali Garg, Stephen Mahony, Rachunliu G Kamei, **Ashish Thomas**, Yogesh Shouche, Christopher J. Raxworthy, Madhava Meegaskumbura, Ines Van Bocxlaer (2016). Frankixalus, a new Rhacophorid Genus of tree hole breeding frogs with oophagus tadpoles. **PLoS ONE** 11(1): e0145727. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.014572
- **Ashish Thomas** and SD Biju (2015). Tadpole consumption is a direct threat to the Endangered Purple frog *Nasikabatrachus sahyadrensis*. **Salamandra**. 51(3): 252-258
- **Ashish Thomas**, Robin Suyesh, SD Biju & MA Bee (2014). Vocal behavior of the elusive Purple frog of India (*Nasikabatrachus sahyadrensis*), a fossorial species endemic to the Western Ghats. **PLoS ONE**. 9(2), e84809.
- S.D. Biju, Rachunliu G. Kamei, Stephen Mahony, **Ashish Thomas**, Sonali Garg, Gargi Sircar & Robin Suyesh. (2013). Taxonomic review of the tree frog genus *Rhacophorus* from the Western Ghats, India (Anura: Rhacophoridae), with description of ontogenetic colour changes and reproductive behavior. **Zootaxa** 3636 (2): 257–289.
- Rachunliu G. Kamei, Diego San Mauro, David J. Gower, Ines Van Bocxlaer, Emma Sherratt, **Ashish Thomas**, Suresh Babu, Franky Bossuyt, Mark Wilkinson and S. D. Biju. (2012). Discovery of a new family of amphibians from northeast India with ancient links to Africa. **Proceedings of the Royal Society: Biological Sciences** 279 (1737), 2396-2401.

Research Projects (Major Grants/Research Collaboration)

Name of Project	Role	Funding agency	Year
Addressing conservation issues of the endangered Purple frog through ecological studies and community education	Principal investigator	The Rufford Foundation, UK	2016-2018
Conservation of the Endangered Indian Purple frog through threat identification, area prioritization and community education	Principal investigator	The Rufford Foundation, UK	2014-2016
Population Ecology, developmental history and conservation issues of Indian Purple frog	Researcher	Zoological Society of London, UK	2009-2011

Awards/ Fellowships received

- Awarded SERB-DST Travel grant to attend the European Congress of Herpetology in UK
- Awarded EDGE Fellowship by the Zoological Society of London, UK (2009)
- CSIR-UGC Junior Research Fellowship (Dec 2007)

Association With Professional Bodies

>Professional bodies

- Herpetology Notes (Q3 journal) (2024 onwards)
Role: **Associate Editor**



- International Union for Conservation of Nature/ Species Survival Commission
Role: **Amphibian Species Assessment facilitator for Indian amphibians 2021**
- **Member**
Societas Europaea Herpetologica (European Herpetological society) – 2023-2025

>Reviewer in Scopus indexed journals

Biotropica; Animal Conservation; Journal for Nature Conservation; Journal of Asia-Pacific Biodiversity; BioRisk, Italian Botanist

Contribution to e-resources (printed / video)

- Contributed two lessons, Land Resources and Biodiversity and Conservation for the online study material for Environmental Studies (AECC), prepared and compiled by the School of Open Learning, University of Delhi

Invited speaker/ Resource person/ Judge

- Invited as Resource person for the workshop titled '*Using Molecular Phylogeny tools to understand Ecology and Evolution*', organized by the Jindal School of Environment and Sustainability, **O.P. Jindal Global University on 23rd October, 2024.**
- Invited to Extravaganza 2024 as a Judge for **SYMBIOSIS, an Inter School Competition** event, on 30th July, 2024, organized by Frank Anthony Public School, Lajpat Nagar, Delhi
- Invited as expert speaker and resource person for the short term course titled, '**Herpetology: a model for wildlife conservation**' organized by the Department of Environmental Sciences, Sri Venkateswara College, University of Delhi held from **February – April 2024.**
- Delivered a talk on the topic '*The story of Western Ghats: through the life of an ancient survivor*', at the Symposium on Ecological Concerns, held at **Sri Venkateswara College, University of Delhi on 27th January, 2023.**
- Invited to be a judge in poster making and presentation competition under the theme "Environmental Issues and world of Microbes", in the International e-conference on 'Health and Research in current scenario with special emphasis on Covid 19 virus, Genomics and pathogenicity', on **July 17, 2020**, organized by the Department of Zoology, Sri Venkateswara College, University of Delhi.
- Delivered a talk on the topic 'Life of the endangered and endemic Indian Purple frog' at **College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Wayanad, Kerala on 8th June, 2017.**
- Delivered a talk on the topic *Ecology of Amphibians* at the **Herpetology workshop** conducted at the Centre for Ecological Sciences, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore from **November 1 – 6, 2016.**



Conferences, Seminars, Webinars, Workshops attended/ organized

- Delivered an oral research presentation titled '*Female vocalization and communal oviposition: Novel insights into the breeding behaviour of Indian Purple frog, Nasikabatrachus sahyadrensis (Amphibia: Nasikabatrachidae)*' at the **10th World Congress of Herpetology**, held at the Borneo Convention Centre in Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia, from **5 – 9 August 2024**.
- Organizing Committee member for organizing the International conference titled 'Ghadar movement and its role in India's independence' held at Rang Bhavan, Akashwani, New Delhi from 23 – 24 February, 2024 organized by Diaspora Research and Resource Centre, Antar Rashtriya Sahayog Parishad (Ministry of External Affairs) in collaboration with Sri Guru Nanak Dev Khalsa College.
- Delivered an oral research presentation titled '*Influence of stream habitat variables on distribution and abundance of tadpoles of the endangered Purple frog, Nasikabatrachus sahyadrensis (Anura: Nasikabatrachidae) and implications on its conservation*' at the **22nd European Congress of Herpetology**, held at University of Wolverhampton, Wolverhampton, UK from **4 – 9 September 2023**.
- Participated in the Delhi Youth Climate Summit held at UChicago Center in Delhi, held from **11 – 12 August, 2023**.
- Co-convenor and Organising committee member for two-day National Webinar on the theme "**Man <-> Through the lens of Eco-criticism**" jointly organized by the Department of English and Department of Environmental Studies in collaboration with Internal Quality Assurance Cell, SGND Khalsa College held from **5 – 6 November, 2020**.
- Attended a short online workshop – **Colloquium 2020-** on the topic "*Acoustic Communication in Frogs*" on **6 October 2020** organized by Department of Ecology and Environmental Sciences, Pondicherry University.
- Attended the two-day online workshop on the topic "*Understanding Lizards*" conducted on **8 – 9 August, 2020** by NiDUS and Foundation for Biodiversity Conservation.
- Organizing committee member for organizing the **SYNERGIES National Webinar** on the theme *New perspectives in nature conservation in post COVID-19 era* on **June 5, 2020** jointly organized by IQACs of Sri Guru Nanak Dev Khalsa College, Bhopal School of Social Sciences and Anand Institute of Social Work.
- Attended a webinar titled "*Constitutional Obligations: Values, Rights, Duties and Responsibilities of citizens*" held on **29th May, 2020** jointly organized by IQACs of Sri Guru Nanak Dev Khalsa College, Bhopal School of Social Sciences and Anand Institute of Social Work.
- Attended a webinar titled "*CSR – A Quality approach to post emergency development*" held on **12th May, 2020** jointly organized by IQACs of Sri Guru Nanak Dev Khalsa College, Bhopal School of Social Sciences and Anand Institute of Social Work.



- Delivered an oral presentation on the topic “*Consumption of the tadpoles the tadpoles of the endangered Purple frog and its conservation through community education and capacity development*” at the 4th **Indian Biodiversity Congress** held from **8 – 10 March, 2018** at University of Pondicherry, Puducherry.
- Attended **Workshop on Scientific writing and oral presentation** sponsored by DBT-Star College project, held at the Hindu College, University of Delhi on **December 6, 2015**.
- Attended the **National Symposium of Recent Advances in Immunology** organized by Indian Immunology Society held at the Miranda House College, University of Delhi from **July 17 – 18, 2014**.
- Organizing committee member for organizing **Workshop on Advancing Frontiers of Amphibian Conservation**, NET CHORUS held at Kerala Forest Department, Trivandrum, Kerala on August 8, 2011.
- Organizing committee member for organizing **Seminar and Workshop on Amphibians of the Western Ghats, WNPATA, NET CHORUS** held at University of Delhi on November 2-3, 2010.
- Attended the **Conservation Tools Training course** at Zoological Society of London, UK held from 10 – 23 August, 2009 and presented a synopsis of my research work on endangered and endemic amphibians of the Western Ghats.
- Attended a **Training course on Basics of Molecular Phylogeny** at the Amphibian Evolution Lab, Vrije Universiteit, Brussels in February 2009 under the guidance of Prof. Franky Bossuyt.

FDP's/Refresher Course attended/ organized

- Successfully completed an online **two-week ONLINE Refresher Course** on ‘**Environmental Sustainability through Indian Knowledge System and Innovation**’ organized by UGC- Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Centre (MMTTC), Jamia Millia Islamia, held from **2nd September – 16th September, 2026**.
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- Successfully completed an online **two-week ONLINE Refresher Course** on ‘**Community Participation in Higher Education**’ organized by Centre for Professional Development in Higher Education (CPDHE), UGC- Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Centre (MMTTC), University of Delhi, held from **9th March – 22nd March 2024**.
- Successfully completed an online **four-Week Faculty Induction Programme** organised by Teaching Learning Centre, Ramanujan College, University of Delhi, under the Ministry of Education sponsored Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya National Mission on Teachers and Teaching (PMMMNTT) held from **22nd January – 20th February, 2024**.



- Attended the inaugural Ceremony of Faculty Induction Programme **"NEP2020: Pedagogical Imperatives of Higher Education"** on **1 December 2023** in Sports Complex, University of Delhi.
- Successfully completed an online **two-week Interdisciplinary Refresher course in Environmental Studies** on the theme '**21st century Environmental Issues, Challenges and Solutions**', organised by Teaching Learning Centre, Ramanujan College, University of Delhi, under the Ministry of Education sponsored Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya National Mission on Teachers and Teaching (PMMMNTT) held from **15th July – 29th July, 2021**.
- **Member of the Organising Committee** in One Week Online National Faculty Development Programme on the theme **"The Road Ahead: NEP and Pedagogies"**, jointly organized by Guru Angad Dev Teaching Learning Centre, SGTB Khalsa College, University of Delhi under the Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya National Mission on Teachers and Teaching (PMMMNTT) of Ministry of Education and Sri Guru Nanak Dev Khalsa College, University of Delhi from **1st – 5th April, 2021**.
- Successfully completed an online **two-week Faculty Development Programme** on **"Managing Online Classes and co-creating MOOCS 3.0"** organised by Teaching Learning Centre, Ramanujan College, University of Delhi, under the aegis of Ministry of Human Resource Development Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya National Mission on Teachers and Teaching held from **25th July – 10th August, 2020**.
- Successfully completed an online **four-week Induction/Orientation Programme** for Faculty in Universities/Colleges/Institutes of Higher Education organised by Teaching Learning Centre, Ramanujan College, University of Delhi, under the aegis of Ministry of Human Resource Development Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya National Mission on Teachers and Teaching held from **26th June – 24th July, 2020**.
- Participated and was part of the Organizing committee for **one-week Faculty Development Programme** titled **"Quality Assurance in HEI's: Reorienting Teaching-Learning Paradigm"** held from **15th -19th March, 2019** at Ram Lal Anand College, University of Delhi.

Outreach activities

- Organize environmental awareness sessions and drives as part of EnviSAGE, the Environmental society of SGND Khalsa college, within campus and among nearby community areas.
- Delivered interactive lectures in Schools and Nature camps in Kerala, educating young children in the age group of 9-14 years on the importance of amphibian conservation.
- Participated in workshops to provide hands on training to forest guards of Kerala Forest department in spotting and identifying important amphibian species