

ZSI 111-Hour National Hackathon 2026

Traditional Knowledge on Biodiversity Conservation

The faculty of Sri Krishnadevaraya College of Horticultural Sciences (SKCHS), Ananthapuramu, proudly participated in the **ZSI 111-Hour National Hackathon 2026**, organized by the Zoological Survey of India, Freshwater Biology Regional Centre, Hyderabad, on **29th May 2026**, conducted under the leadership of Dr. Deepa Jaiswal, Officer-in-Charge and Scientist-E, FBRC-ZSI. The hackathon, themed "**Traditional Knowledge in Protection and Conservation of Various Ecosystems in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana**," was conducted in commemoration of 111 years of ZSI across all 16 regional centres of India simultaneously. This Hackathon was graced by several distinguished guests. The event was attended by **Dr. G. Umapathy, Chief Scientist, LaCONES, CCMB; Shri A. Chandrasekhar, CEO, AP Medicinal and Aromatic Plant Board, Vijayawada; and Brig. P. Ganesham VSM (Retd.), Founder President of Palle Srujana, Hyderabad**. Their insightful addresses and encouragement provided valuable inspiration to the

Organizing Body	Zoological Survey of India (ZSI), Freshwater Biology Regional Centre, Hyderabad
Theme Assigned	Traditional Knowledge in Protection and Conservation of Various Ecosystems in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana
Participation date (Round 1)	29 May 2026
Institution	Sri Krishnadevaraya College of Horticultural Sciences, Ananthapuramu
Faculty Guides / Mentors	Dr. N. Narayan Reddy (Associate Professor) & Dr. T.N. Shivananda (Professor & Head, NRM)
No. of Teams from SKCHS	Three (03) Teams
Total Participants from SKCHS	Nine (09) Faculty Members



Under the mentorship of **Dr. N. Narayan Reddy (Associate Dean, SKCHS) and Dr. T.N. Shivananda (Professor & Head NRM)**, three teams comprising nine faculty members represented SKCHS at the regional round. The teams presented a comprehensive PowerPoint covering the institution's herbal garden with 75 medicinal plant species maintained for ex situ conservation, a dedicated RET (Rare, Endangered and Threatened) block with over 80 species, a freshwater check dam on campus fed by the Alamuru River supporting diverse aquatic life and migratory birds, ethnobotanical and tribal medicinal plant documentation of AP and Telangana, and ethnoveterinary practices of local tribal communities. SKCHS achieved remarkable recognition at the regional level among approximately 20 competing teams. Team 1 led by Dr. N. Narayan Reddy (with Dr. Pratheeksha and Dr. Aravinda (Associate Prof.)); Team 2 led by Dr. T.N. Shivananda, with Dr. L.

Nagireddy and Dr. Vidya; Team 3 comprising Dr. Anil Kumar G.S., Mr. M. Sainath Rao, and Dr. Jeevan U. A total of 20 presentation teams, each consisting of three members, participated in the event, making an overall participation of 60 participants. Out of these participants, nine individuals were selected for prizes and felicitation, including First Prize, Second Prize, and Third Prize categories.

Among the awardees, participants from **Sri Krishnadevaraya College of Horticultural Sciences (SKCHS)** secured notable achievements. Dr. N. Narayan Reddy, Dr. T. N. Shivananda, and Dr. Vidya were awarded the **Third Prize** and were also felicitated for their outstanding presentation. Dr. L. Nagireddy secured the **Second Prize** and received felicitation in recognition of his excellent performance. In addition, Dr. Anil Kumar G. S., Mr. M. Sainath Rao, and Dr. Jeevan U. were honored with **mementos and participation certificates** for their active participation and valuable contribution to the event. On the strength of winning the Second Prize, Dr. L. Nagireddy has been shortlisted to represent SKCHS at the National Semifinals (Round 2) to be held at Dehradun, Uttarakhand, where the focus will be on conservation of RET plants at SKCHS. This achievement stands as a proud moment for the institution and reflects the college's commitment to biodiversity conservation and traditional knowledge documentation.

Members from SKCHS	Outcome / Award
Dr. N. Narayan Reddy , Dr. T.N. Shivananda , Dr. Vidya	3rd Prize + Felicitation
Dr. L. Nagireddy	2nd Prize+ Felicitation
Dr. Anil Kumar G.S.; Mr. M. Sainath Rao, Dr. Jeevan U.	Momento & Participation Certificate

The achievements of these faculty members reflect the academic excellence, professional competence, and active engagement of SKCHS in scholarly and extension-oriented activities.

The participation of SKCHS faculty in the ZSI 111-Hour Hackathon 2026 was a significant academic and institutional achievement. The experience was enriching, offering opportunities to learn from other participating teams across India, interact with ZSI scientists, and present the traditional knowledge heritage of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana to a national audience. The participation was made possible under the guidance and support of Dr. N. Narayan Reddy (Associate Professor) and Dr. T.N. Shivananda (Professor & Head), SKCHS.

Youtube Live video of entire event:

ZSIFBRC HACKATHON 111 Hours on 29/5/2026 @ Hyderabad

<https://www.youtube.com/live/IA44I2GF8iM?si=gYPnrtdvmT3b9G5u>

Gallery include:







