



Fossils as Earth's Timekeepers

(Conference on the occasion of the Platinum Jubilee celebrations of the Palaeontological Society of India and Diamond Jubilee celebrations of the CSIR-National Institute of Oceanography)

29-31 October 2025

CSIR-National Institute of Oceanography, Goa, India

Occasion

The Palaeontological Society of India, established on January 26, 1950, is one of the oldest and most active societies in India dedicated to promoting palaeontological and stratigraphic research. The society organizes a variety of lectures featuring distinguished researchers and recognizes outstanding contributions to the field through various awards. Additionally, it publishes "Journal of The Palaeontological Society of India". To commemorate its 75 years of active service in supporting palaeontological and stratigraphic research, the society is organizing a Platinum Jubilee conference. This event aims to bring together academicians and researchers from various disciplines within palaeontology and stratigraphy for collaborative discussion and exchange of knowledge. This will be the first such gathering of professionals working in the diverse areas of palaeontology and stratigraphy in our country.

Conference Outline

The conference will feature plenary and invited lectures from senior researchers who will provide comprehensive reviews of the current advancements in various fields of palaeontology and stratigraphy. Additionally, contributory oral and poster presentations will offer insights into our recent understanding of palaeontology, as well as progress in developing and evaluating fossil-based proxies for reconstructing the past climate. We also welcome suggestions on unresolved questions that can enhance our understanding of palaeontological issues, with a particular focus on the Indian subcontinent and its surrounding seas.

Themes

We invite contributions related to the following major themes. We also encourage contributions in any other fields of paleontology and stratigraphy.

- Evolutionary Trends in Various Fossils Groups
- Applications of Fossils in Demarcating Stratigraphic Boundaries

- Vertebrates through Ages and their use in Palaeogeography
- Applications of Palaeobotany in Reconstructing Earth's Past
- Isotopic and Elemental Geochemistry of Fossils
- Applications of Molecular Biology in Palaeontology
- Fossils as Proxy in Palaeoclimate and Palaeoceanography
- Functional Morphology of Fossils
- Palaeontological Proxies in Archaeology
- Human Evolution and Civilizations
- Use of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning in Palaeontology
- Recent Advancements in Ichnofossil Origin and Application

Post-Conference Field Trip (1 November 2025)

A trip to the sandy and rocky beaches along with a few historical monuments of Goa is planned on 1 November 2025, after the conference. Please inform whether you are interested in the field trip, at the time of filling the online registration form.

Fossil Playtime

A friendly cricket and football match will be organized on one of the mornings/evenings of the conference days. The matches will be held on the beaches close to the conference venue. We encourage all the participants to come forward and join us for the 'Fossil Playtime'.

Participation

This conference is useful for both experienced researchers who can share their views in various fields of palaeontology as well as active young researchers who can discuss their new findings with the participants involved in palaeontological research. The proposed discussion on unresolved questions in palaeontology, palaeoclimate, palaeoceanography and stratigraphy is intended to help the global fraternity. The participation of final year masters' students interested in pursuing research in palaeontology and stratigraphy, is encouraged. The archaeologists are welcome to participate and present their findings regarding the influence of climatic changes in shaping the fate of human civilizations.

Registration Fee

Category	Registration Fee
B.Sc./M.Sc./Ph.D. Students	Rs. 2500
Others	Rs. 4000

Account Name : CSIR - National Institute of Oceanography
 Account Number : 30267368692
 Name of the Bank : STATE BANK OF INDIA
 Branch : DONA PAULA
 Branch Code : 03566
 NEFT/IFS CODE : SBIN0003566
 MICR CODE : 403002004

SWIFT CODE : SBININBB366

Masters' students nominated by their respective Heads of Departments will be provided travel support and accommodation. A partial financial support will also be provided to the students pursuing Ph.D. and early career researchers.

For registration and payment of the fee, use the following link

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd798iMc7fgyNAU3YqZFXfUz-tAggE73-Qx_FLz-Q7IAyjqDg/viewform?usp=header

Accommodation

Limited accommodation will be provided to the students and early career researchers at discounted rate (Rs.600/person/day) in the Guest House on sharing basis. Please feel free to book any of the sea side hotels (The Hawaii Comforts, Ginger Dona Paula, International Center Goa, Swim Sea, Miramar Residency, Prainha) at a walking distance from the venue.

How to reach?

The conference will be held at the National Institute of Oceanography, situated in Dona Paula, Goa. The participants can reach the venue, from any one of the nearby railway stations, namely Karmali, Thivim, Vasco-de-Gama or Madgaon. Both the pre-paid taxis, bike-pilots, as well as buses are available at all of these railway stations. The nearest airports are Dabolim/Mopa with direct flights from all major cities of India.

Weather in Goa

You will witness a lot of greenery in and around Goa during October. The weather is very pleasant during October, with average daytime temperature being around 30-32°C. Please carry an umbrella, if you don't like showers at all.

Important Deadlines

Abstract Submission	:	30 June 2025
Acceptance of Abstracts	:	31 July 2025
Registration	:	31 August 2025

Got Queries/Doubts

For any questions/clarifications regarding the conference, please send an email to convener, Dr. Rajeev Saraswat at psi75goa@gmail.com or call/message at 9421249860 (M)/08322450622 (O).