The Palaeontological Society of India

(CAS in Geology, University of Lucknow, Lucknow)
cordially invites you to the Award and Gold Medal Conferment Ceremony of

PSI-Prof. R.C. Misra Life Time Achievement Award-2024

upon

Dr. V.P. Mishra

(Former Deputy Director General, Geological Survey of India, NR, Lucknow)

followed by a lecture on

An Indian Geoheritage Site: Siwalik Fossil Park, Saketi (Himachal Pradesh)

by

Dr. V.P. Mishra

Tuesday, 3rd November, 2026 at 1:30 PM onwards

at K. P. Vimal Auditorium, Centre of Advanced Study in Geology, University of Lucknow, Lucknow
(The lecture is organized in hybrid mode, online Google link**: https://meet.google.com/ndo-uhek-vee**)

Dr. Rajiv Nigam
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The Palaeontological Society of India

PROGRAMME

Tuesday, 3rd November, 2026

Venue: at K. P. Vimal Auditorium, Centre of Advanced Study in Geology, University of Lucknow, Lucknow

1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.:

- Floral tribute to the portrait of Late Prof. RC Misra.
- Welcome Address by Dr. Rajiv Nigam
- Address by Prof. Ajay Kumar Arya, Head, Department of Geology
- Brief Introduction of Prof. RC Misra by Prof. Mukund Sharma
- Introduction of the Guest Speaker by Dr. Anju Saxena
- Felicitation and Award Ceremony
- PSI-Prof. RC Misra Lecture to be delivered by Dr. V.P. Mishra.
- Vote of thanks by Dr. Ramanand Yadav.

T E A

To join the video meeting, click this link:

https://meet.google.com/ndo-uhek-vee

AN INDIAN GEOHERITAGE SITE: SIWALIK FOSSIL PARK (HIMACHAL PRADESH)

V.P. Mishra
Formerly Deputy Director General, Geological Survey of India

The Siwalik Fossil Park at Saketi is located amidst picturesque exposures of Siwalik Hills in the **Markanda valley in Sirmur district of Himachal Pradesh** at a distance of about 100 km from Dehradun and about 90 km from Chandigarh. The Park has been developed by the Geological Survey of India in collaboration with Himachal Pradesh Government. It has been developed as a significant step towards preservation of prehistoric animal sites, restoration of their natural environment and utilization of the same for the scientific, educational and recreational purposes.

The park spread over an area of about 1.5 sq. km was opened to public on **23rd March, 1974.**The park displays **life-size fibre glass models of six of the prehistoric animals** (*Gavialis browni, Colossochelys atlas, Hexaprotodon sivalensis, Stegodon ganesa, Sivatherium giganteum & Paramachaerodus* sp.) which thrived in the area about 1 to 2.5 million years ago, their fossilised remains being recovered from Saketi and neighbouring region.

The Siwalik Fossil Park at Saketi was declared as **National Geological Monument** in 2001 by Geological Survey of India during its 150th anniversary celebrations.

A large and rare collection of vertebrate fossils recovered from Siwalik hills in Saketi and adjacent area has been displayed in a **museum** within the park campus. The fossil specimens include skulls, teeth, jaws, horn cores, limb bone fragments, vertebrae, etc. of various animal groups mainly mammalian, reptilian and fish. Among mammals, the fossils of proboscids (elephants), equids (horses), hippopotamids, rhinoceroses, bovids (cattle), cervids (deer), suids (pigs), giraffids and carnivores are the common exhibits.

A **Catalogue of Fossils in the Museum at Siwalik Fossil Park, Saketi, Himachal Pradesh** (***G.S.I. Catalogue Series*** **No. 8, 2013; 311 pp.** by **V. P. Mishra, Jaya Singh and R.S. Chandel**) has been published by G.S.I. giving photographs, taxonomic status, locality, horizon collectors' name and GSI field season of all the fossils displayed in the museum. Detailed geological maps and litho-columns of the Siwalik strata in and around Saketi mainly investigated by GSI have also been included in the catalogue.