



Accredited 'B' Grade (2.67 CGPA) By NAAC  
Sarvajanik Education Society  
**Shree Ramkrishna Institute of Computer  
Education and Applied Sciences**  
M.T.B. College campus, Athwalines, Surat.



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**Department of Environmental Science**  
**National Wetland Day Celebrations**  
**Expert Lecture on “Crane Conservation”**

Environmental Science Department of SRKI, Surat organized expert lecture on “Crane Conservation” as a part of National Wetland Day Celebrations for students of Environmental Science on February 15, 2020. The expert talk was delivered by Mr. Hiren Patel, UPL, Kheda. The lecture was started by describing the importance of CSR activities done by UPL. UPL Limited is a global generic crop protection, chemicals and seeds company, headquartered in India (Mumbai). UPL Limited, under its CSR initiative, started Sarus Crane conservation project in Kheda region of Gujarat two years back, the project saw significant improvement with local community involvement. Efforts are presently being made to ensure this species is preserved and conserved for future generations. All the environmental episodes and animal behavioural studies were listed and explained one by one in a scientific manner. He then explained the beginning and causes of the poaching and declining conditions of Sarus.

Mr. Patel gave us information about the reproductive biology of Sarus and their migration from far Himalayan regions to Gujarat in winter season. Physiology and food metabolism was explained in detail. He showed establishment of more systematic and rigorous Sarus crane count in the state to ascertain more realistic population numbers, their distribution and local migrations to formulate conservation plans for the habitats used by the species for its survival and reproduction involving the local communities.

In the last phase of his lecture, Mr. Patel explained about main objectives and outcomes of UPL’s Sarus Conservation project. They are listed below.

- To estimate Sarus crane population in the natural wetlands as well as agricultural fields in the selected districts of Gujarat.
- To assess habitat preference and to identify areas important for breeding of Sarus cranes.
- To assess ecological, anthropogenic threats and opportunities before the population of Sarus cranes.
- To increase awareness of local communities and to ensure more effective community participation in the conservation of the Sarus.

- To involve partners and build the capacity of all stakeholders for Sarus conservation.

Mr. Patel also showed us an informative video of Sarus habitat and behavior. He acquainted us with the scope of environmental science and encouraged students to choose the field of conservation and behavioral ecology as it holds much importance in the upcoming times. Overall, the lecture was very interesting and beneficial to all the students.





