

KANHA
AUGUST 2016

Team: Amit Awasthi – *Conservation Officer*
Sampathlal Dhurve – *Field assistant*

Highlights

- ⇒ 2 shramdhaans for community assistance – school road site area cleaned at Batwar and area next to well cleaned at Manegaon
- ⇒ Plantation programme – 750 saplings planted in 3 villages
- ⇒ 3 awareness programmes on snake bites
- ⇒ 3 compost pits dug
- ⇒ 2 anti-plastic programmes
- ⇒ Environment education programme conducted in 11 schools - attended by 348 students
- ⇒ 2 unemployed youths placed in local jobs

Conservation work

<i>Date</i>	<i>Place</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>No. of participants</i>
August 11	Batwar	Shramdhaan programme to clear school road	25
August 16	Manegaon	Shramdhaan programme to clear area next to well	8
August	Batwar	50 saplings planted at school, road side and village farms and homes	
August	Chapri	650 saplings planted at school, road side and village farms and play ground	
August	Bhagpur	50 saplings planted at school, road side ,and village farms and homes	
August 13	Samaiya	Awareness programme on snake bite	14
August 28	Manegaon	-----do-----	11
August 29	Batwar	-----do-----	18
August 9	Manegaon	Dug compost pit at Deenu Pandrey's residence	
August 16	Dhamangaon	Dug compost pit at Ramsingh's residence	
August 22	Bhagpur	Dug compost pit at Chetram Uikey's residence	
August 26	Sautiya	Anti-plastic programme	14
August 28	Bhagpur	-----do-----	8

On August 11, Amit and Sampath organised a programme at Middle School at Sarpanchtola in Batwar. The road leading to the school was overgrown with weeds and grass due to the heavy monsoon rains. 25 students from the village joined hands with our team to clean up the school road.



Batwar- School road site before (left) and after (right) our programme

On August 16, Amit and Sampath led a team of 8 people in a programme to clear wild growth around a well at Manegaon. Due to heavy rains, wild growth had proliferated around the well and access to the well was affected. Our team, which comprised 8 youths from the village, removed the wild growth and cleaned the area.



Manegaon- Site around well before (left) and after (right) our programme

As part of our monsoon activities, our teams across the landscape motivate and organise villagers to collect seeds, prepare saplings and dig pits so that a plantation drive can be launched once the rains set in. During August, we helped plant a total of 750 saplings in 4 villages. The species planted included *mango*, *kanji*, *jamun*, *sitafal*, *kanher*, *bamboo*.



Saplings planted alongside main road at Chapri and next to school

During August, our team organised 3 awareness programmes on snakes and snake bites. During the monsoon, snakes come out of their pits as these get flooded and there is greater occurrence of humans being bitten by snakes. Our awareness programmes focussed on teaching villagers how to identify venomous and non-venomous snakes. We also explained to the villagers what to do when bitten by snakes. Details of the programmes are given in the table above.

Our team encourages organic farming as part of our strategy to reduce the impact of chemical fertilisers on fields adjoining prime wildlife areas. Part of our work includes assistance to villagers in setting up vermi-compost tanks and compost pits. During August, we helped 3 villagers dig compost pits – Deenu Pandrey of Manegaon on August 9, Ramsingh of Dhamangaon on August 16 and Chetram Uikey of Bhagpur on August 22.



Bhagpur- compost pit prepared with our assistance at Chetram's house

On August 26, our team organised an anti-plastic programme at Sautiya. Amit and Sampath spoke to the students of the village school about the harmful impact of plastic/polythene on the environment and motivated them to remove such litter from the village. The students went around the village, collecting plastic and polythene litter/waste, which were then buried in a pit on the outskirts of the village. A similar programme was organised at Bhagpur on August 28.



Sautiya - Village children with plastic litter collected during our anti-plastic programme

Education

During the month our team organized environment education programmes in 10 schools in the villages in our area of operations.

S.no	Date	School	Village	Number of participants
1	August 4	Government Middle School (GMS)	Patpara	32
2	August 5	GMS	Batwar	25
3	August 8	GMS	Dhamangaon	36
4	August 10	Government Primary School (GPS)	Manegaon	31
5	August 12	Education Guarantee Scheme School(EGS)	Bhagpur	14
6	August 13	EGS	Samaiya	17
7	August 17	GPS	Kutwahi	28
8	August 24	GPS	Chapri	33
9	August 26	GMS	Mocha	87
10	August 27	GPS	Batwar	26
11	August 29	GPS	Sautiya	19
			Total	348



Batwar - Students listen to Sampath's lecture on conservation

Education van programme

There were no film shows in August.

Employment Cell

We helped two youth get jobs in August.

S. No.	Date	Village	Name	Monthly Salary in rupees	Education	Age	Job
1.	August 9	Batwar	Santosh Maravi	3,000 + meals	9 th standard	24	Worker at Tal Resort, Khatiya
2	August 21	Chapri	Rajkumar Thakur	3,500 + meals	12 th	24	Worker at Royal Sylvan Resort, Chapri



Dinesh Kushram (of Chapri) who got a job as security guard with our help at Royal Sylvan Resort, Chapri