

**KANHA
OCTOBER 2016**

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

Highlights

- ⇒ *Celebrated Wildlife Week programme in villages*
- ⇒ *2 shramdhaan programmes for community assistance – area next to well cleaned at Manegaon and road site cleaned at Chapri*
- ⇒ *Plantation programme – 1,950 saplings planted in 4 villages*
- ⇒ *4 awareness programmes on vegetable farming*
- ⇒ *4compost pits prepared in 3 villages*
- ⇒ *2 anti-plastic programmes*
- ⇒ *Environment education programme conducted in 10 schools - attended by 424 students*
- ⇒ *4 nature and wildlife film shows -- attended by 337 students*
- ⇒ *3 unemployed youths get jobs through our Employment Cell*

Conservation work

Date	Village	Activity	No. Of participants
October 12	Dhamangaon	Shramdhaan programme to clear area next to well	10
October 16	Chapri	Shramdhaan programme to clear area road site	16
October 8	Batwar	800 saplings planted forest area	
October 9	Chapri, Manegaon	Distributed 300 and 400 saplings respectively	
October 10	Chapri, Kutwahi	Distributed 200 and 250 saplings respectively	
October 19	Kutwahi	Awareness programme on vegetable farming	11
October 21	Manegaon	-----do-----	12
October 23	Batwar	-----do-----	13
October 28	Dhamangaon	-----do-----	14
October 17	Batwar	Constructed compost pit at Ramprasad Aarmo's residence	
October 18	Kutwahi	Constructed compost pit at Sarita Bai's residence	
October 18	Patpara	Constructed compost pit at Santo Bai's residence	
October 25	Chapri	Constructed compost pit at Gajendra Thakur's residence	

October 13	Kutwahi	Anti-plastic programme	11
October 17	Batwar	-----do-----	13

On October 12, Amit and Sampath led a team of 10 people in a programme to clear wild growth around a well at Dhamangaon. Due to heavy rains, wild growth had proliferated around the well and access to the well was affected. Our team, which comprised 7 youths and 3 women from the village, removed the wild growth and cleaned the area.

On October 16, Amit and Sampath led a team of 16 youths in a programme to clear wild growth from the main road leading into Kursitola. Besides making movement difficult, the wild growth was also providing refuge to snakes and scorpions. Our team cleared away the wild growth, thus reducing the chances of people stepping on snakes and killing them.



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



Chapri - Volunteers clean area at Kursitola

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 October, we helped plant a total of 1,950 saplings in 4 villages. The species planted included *mango*, *kanji*, *jamun*, *sitafal*, *sisam*, *bamboo*, *suababool*, and *liptis*.



Saplings planted at road side Chapri by school students and youths

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 compost pits. During October, we helped 3 villagers dig compost pits – Ramprasad Aarmo of Batwar on October 17, Sarita Bai of Kutwahi on October 18, Santo Bai of Patpara on October 18 and Gajendra Thakur of Chapri on October 25.



Patpara - Compost pit built with our assistance at Santo Bai's house

On October 13, our team organised an anti-plastic programme at Kutwahi. Amit and Sampath spoke to the villagers about the harmful impact of plastic/polythene on the environment and motivated them to remove such litter from the village. The team of villagers and 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 anti-plastic programme was organised at Batwar on October 17.



Kutwahi - Sampath and school children collect litter during anti-plastic programme

Education

During the month our team organized environment education programmes in 11 schools in the villages in our area of operations.

S.no	Date	School	Village	Number of participants
1	October 10	Government Middle School (GMS)	Batwar	29
2	October 13	GPS	Dhamangaon	36
3	October 15	Education Guarantee Scheme School(EGS)	Bhagpur	12
4	October 17	GPS	Patpara	40
5	October 18	Government Primary School (GPS)	Kutwahi	36
6	October 19	GMS	Samaiya	18
7	October 20	GPS	Mocha	128
8	October 22	GPS	Chapri	37
9	October 24	GPS	Manegaon	34
10	October 25	GPS	Sautiya	28
11	October 27	GPS	Batwar	26
			Total	424



Batwar - Students listen to Sampath's lecture on conservation

Wild life Week October 2016

Sr. No	Date	Village	School name	Activity	No. of participants
1	Oct 1	Patpara	Middle school	Painting Competition, Conservation Rally	15,47
2	Oct 2	Samaiya	Village	nature trails	12
3	Oct 3	Manegaon	Village Show	Nature & Wildlife film show	56
4	Oct 4	Mocha	Village Show	Nature & Wildlife film show	178
5		Dhamangaon	Village Show	Nature & Wildlife film show	58
6		Batwar	Village Show	Nature & Wildlife film show	45
7	Oct 5	Dhamangaon	Middle school	Painting Competition, Conservation Rally	13
8	Oct 6	Mocha	High School	Painting & Essay Writing, Rangoli Competition	28,12,15
9		Mocha	Middle school	Painting & Essay Writing Competition	15,10
10		Mocha	Middle & High School	Conservation Rally	340
11	Oct 7	Batwar	Primary and Middle school	Painting Competition, Conservation Rally	26,46

Education van programme

There were 4 film shows on nature and wildlife conservation in October.

S. No.	Date	Village	Film name	Participants
1	October 3	Manegaon	Land of Tigers	56

			part-1	
3	October 4	Mocha	----do----	178
4		Batwar	---do---	45
5		Dhamangaon	---do---	58
			Total	337



Mocha - Students watch film on nature and wildlife conservation

Employment Cell

We helped 3 youths get jobs during the month of October

S. No.	Date	Village	Name	Monthly Salary in rupees	Education	Age	Job
1.	October 11	Manegaon	Raju Maravi	3,000/- + meals	9 th standard	21	Guard at Pugmark Resort, Khatiya
2	October 15	Sautiya	Surjeet Uikey	3,300/-	9 th standard	22	Waiter at Maple Resort, Mocha
3	October 27	Batwar	Hari Singh Markam	3,800/- + meals	10 th standard	22	Guard at Koushalya Resort, Mocha



Hari Singh (of Chapri) who got a job

as security guard with our help at Koushalya Resort Mocha

Livelihood programmes

As part of our programme to help villagers find alternative livelihood options which will reduce their dependence on forests, we have been encouraging villagers in our area of operations around Kanha, to take up vegetable farming. Due to the presence of several resorts around Mocha and a steady flow of tourists, there is good demand for fresh vegetables. Over the past 3 years, we have assisted around 15 villagers in taking up vegetable farming and they are earning around 500-1,000 rupees a week in additional income. The vegetable patches are typically of small size and located in the backyards of the residences. Some villagers have now got enough confidence to expand and are planning to use part of their farm land for this activity. To encourage more villagers to take up this activity, we conducted four awareness programmes in October at Kutwahi, Batwar, Manegaon and Dhamangaon.



Chapri – Patiram Dhurve (left) and Sarita Bai (right) tends to her vegetable patch set up with our help