

**PENCH TIGER RESERVE, MAHARASHTRA
FEBRUARY 2018**

Team: Abhijit Dutta – *Assistant Director (Conservation)*
Bandu Uikey – *Conservation Officer*
Dilip Lanjewar, Balkrishna Bagmare – *Community Officers*

Highlights

- ⇒ *One check dam built at Khapa*
- ⇒ *New Resettlement GR read out and explained to villagers at Kirangisarra*
- ⇒ *World Wetland Day celebrated on Feb 2 at Sawara & Siladevi*
- ⇒ *Community patrols at Wagholi, Khapa & Saleghat*
- ⇒ *Nature trails at Wagholi & Ghoti*
- ⇒ *Anti-plastic campaign at Chargaon*
- ⇒ *Sixteen school Nature Education Programs, 365 participants*
- ⇒ *Six film shows, 284 participants*
- ⇒ *Five youths placed in jobs; two meetings on alternative livelihoods*
- ⇒ *Six free medical camps, 213 patients treated*

Conservation Work

Sr.no.	Date	Village / Place	Activity	Participants
1.	Feb 2	Sawara	Wetland Day celebration	35
2.	Feb 2	Siladevi	Wetland Day celebration	20
3.	Feb 4	Khapa	Patrolling	5
4.	Feb 5	Sawang Beat, Saleghat Range	Patrolling	5
5.	Feb 11	Wagholi	Nature Trail	12
6.	Feb 11	Wagholi	Patrolling	4
7.	Feb 16	Chargaon	Anti-plastic Campaign	7
8.	Feb 21	Kirangisarra	Resettlement meeting	20
9.	Feb 23	Khapa	Check dam construction	10
10.	Feb 25	Ghoti	Nature Trail	18
Total Participants				136

On February 23, a check dam was built in Khapa with the help of villagers and the village eco-development committee (VEDC) president, Kashinath Maraskole. The check dam will help the villagers in the dry season when water availability will be less. This method of soil and water conservation has proved to be very efficient previously.



Khapa - Dilip leads villagers in building check dam

On February 21, a meeting was held in Kirangisarra and the new Government Resolution (GR), which was put out in public domain on January 10, 2018, was read out and discussed with the villagers. The benefits of this GR were explained to the villagers by Bandu and Dilip.

Community patrols were carried out in Wagholi, Khapa and Saleghat. Such patrols help detect any illegal activity and assist in monitoring wildlife movement.



*Kirrangisarra- Bandu & Dilip explaining the new resettlement GR to villagers (left);
Saleghat Range- Balkrishna during community patrol (right)*

World Wetland Day was celebrated on February 2 at Sawara and Siladevi. Dilip and Balkrishna explained the importance of wetlands to school children and the need to conserve local wetlands.



*Sawara - Dilip explaining the importance of wetlands on World Wetland day (left);
Ghoti - Dilip with students during nature trail (right)*

An anti-plastic campaign was carried out on February 16 at Chargaon and two nature trails were arranged for school students of Wagholi and Ghoti on February 11 and February 25 respectively where details about local flora and fauna was provided to the students.

Environmental Education *School Education Programs*

Sr. No.	Date	School	Village	Number of students
1.	Feb 5	ZP School	Khudsapar	9
2.	Feb 6	ZP School	Chargaon	24
3.	Feb 14	ZP School	Narhar	18
4.	Feb 14	ZP School	Ghoti	42
5.	Feb 15	ZP School	Sawara	58
6.	Feb 15	ZP School	Kadbikheda	30
7.	Feb 17	ZP School	Kirangisarra	10
8.	Feb 20	ZP School	Awaleghat	27
9.	Feb 21	ZP School	Suwardhara	25
10.	Feb 22	ZP School	Siladevi	20
11.	Feb 23	ZP School	Ambazari	25
12.	Feb 24	ZP School	Pipariya	13
13.	Feb 24	ZP School	Sillari	8
14.	Feb 26	ZP School	Khapa	19
15.	Feb 26	ZP School	Wagholi	17
16.	Feb 27	ZP School	Zinzeriya	20
Total Participants				365

In the month of February, a total of 16 school education programs were held by Dilip and Balkrishna where students were given lectures on man-animal conflict, biodiversity conservation, climate change and other issues related to nature conservation. A total of 365 students were reached through this program.



Chargaon - Balkrishna during school education program (left); Pipariya - Dilip during school education program (right)

Education Van Program

The education van conducted six wildlife movie screenings in February.

Sr. No.	Date	School	Village	Movie	Number of students
1.	Feb 20	ZP School	Wagholi	Land of Tigers	25
2.		ZP School	Khapa	Land of Tigers	22
3.		ZP School	Sawara	Truth about Tigers	90
4.	Feb 21	ZP School	Kirangisarra	Land of Tigers	15
5.		ZP School	Ghoti	Truth about Tigers	92
6.		ZP School	Kadbikheda	Truth about Tigers	40
Total Participants					284



Ghoti - Education van movie screening -Truth about Tigers

IT Education Program

Satpuda Foundation has donated desktops as well as laptops to the Zilla Parishad School in Sawara village and has been conducting IT education program for the students free of cost since the year 2013. Basic computer skills are taught to the students to make them feel comfortable with the technology and improve their IT skills. Ms. Sita, a resident of Sawara village works on an honorarium basis for Satpuda Foundation, wherein, she is

able to earn a livelihood as well. Four such classes were held in the month of February 2018.

Employment Cell

Bandu took review from the youth sent to work to as laborers at Krishnadevrai Breakers earlier in Vapi, Gujarat. As the review was good, Bandu encouraged four youths from Ghatpendari to join as daily wage laborers at the same factory.

Sr. no.	Name	Qual.	Age	Village	Salary
1.	Shravan Kumre	8 th	26	Ghatpendari	Rs. 9000 & meals
2.	Ashok Kumre	10 th	23	Ghatpendari	Rs. 9000 & meals
3.	Anil Masram	12 th	25	Ghatpendari	Rs. 9000 & meals
4.	Sunil Dhurve	10 th	23	Ghatpendari	Rs. 9000 & meals

Balkrishna helped Ravi Idpachi from Chargaon to join as a driver for SP Roadways, a transport firm in Mansar. Balkrishna learnt about vacancies at SP Roadways and informed interested youths in Chargaon. Ravi applied for the job and was hired.

Sr . no.	Name	Qual .	Age	Village	Job	Salary
1.	Ravindra Idpachi	12 th	28	Chargaon	Driver with SP Roadways, Mansar	Rs. 10000



Ghatpendhari - Four youths joined Krushnadevrai breakers, Vapi, Gujarat as labourers through our persuasion (left); Chargaon - Ravi recruited as a driver by SP Roadways through Balkrishna (right)

Two livelihood meetings were held in February.

On February 17, Balkrishna took 12 youths from Siladevi, Chargaon and Suwardhara to a livelihood mela organized by a private firm in Parseoni.

On February 19, Balkrishna met women from Chargaon and encouraged them to take up lantana craft making as an alternative source of livelihood.

Livelihood Meetings

Sr. No.	Date	Village / Place	Training	Participants
1.	Feb 19	Chargaon	Meeting for lantana craft	8
2.	Feb 17	Parseoni	Livelihood Mela	12
Total Participants				20



Chargaon-Balkrishna encouraging women to adopt lantana craft as livelihood alternative (left); Chargaon- Lantana hairpins made by villagers trained by us (right)

Mobile Health Service (MHS)

There were 6 medical camps in February in which 213 patients were treated.

Sr. no.	Date	Village	No. of Patients
1	Feb 24	Makardhokda	35
2.		Chargaon	47
3.	Feb 25	Siladevi	23
4.		Saleghat	53
5.	Feb 26	Ambazari	37
6.		Narhar	18
Total Patients			213



Makardhokda- Dr. Zanjali with patients during medical camp