



**PENCH TIGER RESERVE, MAHARASHTRA  
MARCH 2018**

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

**Highlights**

- ⇒ *Four community patrols at Ghatpendari, Saleghat, Khapa & Siladevi*
- ⇒ *Assisted in fighting fire in forest at Kirangisarra*
- ⇒ *One waterhole cleaned and de-silted at Ghoti*
- ⇒ *One check dam repaired at Siladevi*
- ⇒ *Two cattle vaccination programs, 340 cattle vaccinated*
- ⇒ *Two tanks to provide supplementary fodder to cattle built*
- ⇒ *Celebration of World Wildlife Day, Sparrow Day, International Day of Forests and World Water Day*
- ⇒ *Two nature trails, 28 students participated*
- ⇒ *Sixteen school environment education programs, 554 participants*
- ⇒ *IT Education program inaugurated at ZP School, Siladevi*
- ⇒ *Two Job Placements, three lantana craft displays, marketing linkage for three lantana craftsmen and four youths sent to livestock training*
- ⇒ *Six free medical camps, 278 patients treated*

**Conservation Action and Awareness**

Sr. no.	Date	Village / Place	Activity	Participants
1.	Mar 1	Ghatpendari	Community Patrol	7
2.	Mar 2	Pathar Beat-Saleghat	Community Patrol	7
3.	Mar 3	Ghoti	World Wildlife Day: Awareness Rally	80
4.	Mar 3	Ghatpendari	World Wildlife Day: Awareness Rally	26
5.	Mar 11	Siladevi Beat	Community Patrol	9
6.	Mar 14	Khapa	Community Patrol	4
7.	Mar 14	Khapa	Nature Trail	12
8.	Mar 19	Ghoti	Azolla Tank Demonstration	10
9.	Mar 19	Pipariya	Azolla Tank Demonstration	6
10.	Mar 20	Chargaon	Sparrow Day: Water pot installed at school	25
11.	Mar 20	Awaleghat	Sparrow Day: Water pot	20

			installed at school and movie screening	
12.	Mar 20	Ghoti	Sparrow Day: Water pot installed at school	60
13.	Mar 21	Sillari- Pipariya	International Day of Forests: Awareness Rally	70
14.	Mar 21	Ghatpendari	Cattle Vaccination	250
15.	Mar 21	Ghatkukda	Cattle Vaccination	100
16.	Mar 22	Sawara	World Water Day: Awareness Rally	80
17.	Mar 26	Sawara	Nature Trail	16
18.	Mar 27	Ghoti	Waterhole cleaning & de-silting	8
19.	Mar 29	Siladevi	Check dam repairing	9
20.	Mar 30	Kirangi Sarra Beat	Forest fire-fighting	35
<b>Total Participants</b>				<b>834</b>

On March 27, Dilip along with a few villagers cleaned and de-silted a waterhole near Ghoti village. Wild animals traverse large distances for water during the summer season due to water scarcity. The cleaning and de-silting of waterholes ensures water is available at the spot throughout the summer for the animals.

On March 29, a check dam was repaired in Siladevi by Balkrishna and villagers so that water is available for agriculture and for livestock in the village during the summers.



*Ghoti - Dilip with villagers cleaning and de-silting waterhole (left); Siladevi – Check dam being repaired for the summer season (right)*

Community patrolling was organised on four occasions on March 1, 2, 11 and 14 in Ghatpendari, Saleghat, Siladevi and Khapa respectively. Such patrolling ensures tight vigil by the villagers themselves and reporting of any incidents to the Forest Department. On March 30, Dilip helped local Forest Department staff and villagers to fight a forest fire in Kirangisarra.



*Kirangisarra - Dilip helps Forest Dept. staff and villagers in dousing a forest fire (left);  
Saleghat - Balkrishna during a foot patrol on the eve of Holi (right)*

On March 3, Bandu and Dilip celebrated World Wildlife Day in Ghatpendari and Ghoti respectively by organising awareness rallies with students and villagers. On March 21, a similar awareness rally was carried out by Dilip from Sillari to Pipariya on the eve of International Day of Forests with villagers and trainees of hospitality training course at PACE Sillari.



*Ghatpendhari- Bandu during awareness rally on World Wildlife Day (left);  
Sillari - Dilip leading awareness march on International Day of Forests (right)*



*Ghoti - Dilip and students installing water pots for birds on World Sparrow Day (left);  
Sawara - Awareness Rally on World Water Day (right)*



On March 20, World Sparrow Day was celebrated with school students in Chargaon, Awaleghat and Ghoti. Water pots were installed in schools so that water is available to small birds like sparrows in the village during the summer. A short movie on sparrow conservation was screened in Awaleghat School by Balkrishna.

On March 22, World Water Day was celebrated by Dilip with school students and villagers of Sawara village. An awareness rally was organized, with participants going through the village shouting slogans on water conservation. Dilip explained the need to conserve forests and water to the villagers.

On March 19, our team organised a demonstration of setting up of an Azolla tank in Ghoti village for the livestock. Azolla is a fern symbiotic with blue-green algae that is beneficial, nutritious and easy to digest for the livestock. The Azolla feed increases the milk productivity of milch animals and improves the quality of meat of poultry. In a way, the Azolla feed will marginally reduce dependence on forest fodder and hence reduce the grazing pressure on forests.



*Ghoti - Demonstration and setting up of Azolla tank for livestock (left);  
Khapa- Dilip during a nature trail with students (right)*

## **Environment Education**

### *School Education Programs*

<b>Sr. no.</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Village</b>	<b>Number of students</b>
1.	Mar 3	ZP School	Ghoti	80
2.	Mar 5	ZP School	Ambazari	23
3.	Mar 8	ZP School	Kirangi Sarra	12
4.	Mar 9	ZP School	Ghoti	78
5.	Mar 10	ZP School	Pipariya	15
6.	Mar 10	ZP School	Sillari	8
7.	Mar 12	ZP School	Wagholi	17
8.	Mar 12	ZP School	Khapa	21
9.	Mar 12	ZP School	Awaleghat	40
10.	Mar 13	ZP School	Khudsapar	8
11.	Mar 14	ZP School	Chargaon	25
12.	Mar 15	ZP School	Kadbikheda	40

13.	Mar 17	ZP School	Suwardhara	18
14.	Mar 19	ZP School	Siladevi	17
15.	Mar 22	ZP School	Sawara	80
16.	Mar 26	ZP School	Sawara	72
<b><i>Total Participants</i></b>				<b><i>554</i></b>

In March, a total of 16 school education programs were conducted by Dilip and Balkrishna in which students were given lectures on man-animal conflict, biodiversity conservation, climate change and other issues related to nature conservation. A total of 554 students attended these programmes.



*Kadbikheda - Dilip during school education program (left);  
Awaleghat - Balkrishna during screening of movie on sparrows (right)*

### *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 March in ZP School Sawara for the students of this village.



*Sawara - Sita teaching students about basics of computer (left); Siladevi-  
Inauguration of IT Education program in ZP School (right)*

This concept was extended to Siladevi village and a new IT Education program was inaugurated in ZP School Siladevi on March 16, 2018 wherein a new Raspberry-pi system was donated by Sushant Kudagi from Karnataka through Satpuda Foundation. As this village lies in interior area of the buffer zone of Pench Tiger Reserve, such an initiative will help students gain IT skills, confidence and help in gathering support for grassroots conservation work from the villagers. The head teacher Rathore and VEDC President Arun Naikam applauded this initiative and were present to encourage the students to learn about IT and contribute to conservation.

### **Employment Cell**

Satpuda Foundation provided the opportunity for lantana craftsmen trained by us to display and sell their lantana products at various lantana craft melas during March. Lantana craft products and catalogues were displayed in 3 such melas in Nagpur and information was provided to visitors about how purchasing lantana craft products help in conservation and tribal community upliftment.

Moreover, a market linkage for this craft was created for the craftsmen of Pench Tiger Reserve in Bangalore through Raghu, who is associated with 'Ragi Kana', a weekly rural display market in Bengaluru. He has placed some orders on test basis from three craftsmen in Pench Tiger Reserve. Depending on the demand for these products in Bengaluru, he will place further orders for varied range of lantana products.

#### *Lantana Craft Mela*

<b>Sr. no.</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>Organizer</b>	<b>Visitors</b>
1.	Mar 9,10,11	Chitnavis Center Nagpur	Be Organic	300
2.	Mar 21	Van Bhavan, Nagpur	Satpuda Foundation	150
3.	Mar 21	Dhanwatey Hall, Nagpur	Satpuda Foundation	70
<b><i>Total Participants</i></b>				<b><i>520</i></b>



*Lantana craft display and sale at Chitnavis center in Nagpur (left);  
Lantana craft display at Van Bhavan in Nagpur on International Day of Forests with  
Chief Wildlife Warden (right)*

*Lantana Craft Marketing Linkage (Bulk order placed by Raghu from Bangalore)*

<b>Sr. no.</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Craftsman</b>	<b>Village</b>	<b>Lantana Product Order</b>
1.	Mar 22	Pankaj Sontake	Chargaon	Hairpins
2.	Mar 22	Kowdu Sontake	Chargaon	Hairpins
3.	Mar 23	Satrughan Warthi	Sawara	Hangers, Key chains and Toothbrush stand



*Lantana craft display and sale at Dhanwatey hall in Nagpur (left);  
Chargaon- Raghu interacts with artisan for creating market linkage (right)*

Four youths from Ghoti village were encouraged to participate in a three-day livestock management training program organized by the Animal Husbandry department in Khumari from March 21 to 23. They were helped by Satpuda Foundation in registering for the event. They underwent training in livestock and poultry management and animal care, health and medication.



Sr. no.	Name	Qual.	Age	Village
1.	Nishal Kashinath Sahare	10 <sup>th</sup>	27	Ghoti
2.	Ankit Vitobha Dongre	12 <sup>th</sup>	20	Ghoti
3.	Yashwant Sukhdev Lanjewar	12 <sup>th</sup>	35	Ghoti
4.	Shisupal Rewaram Dongre	12 <sup>th</sup>	32	Ghoti

We assisted 2 youths, one each from Ghoti and Ghatpendari, in getting jobs with the Forest Department as fire-watchers on daily wages. Fire-watchers are recruited for three-month spells.

*Job Placement (Forest Department Fire-watchers)*

Sr. no.	Name	Qual.	Age	Village	Salary
1.	Ankush Yadavrao Warkhade	4 <sup>th</sup>	38	Ghoti	Rs.8400
2.	Shrikrishna Ramna Admachi	12 <sup>th</sup>	26	Ghatpendari	Rs.8400



*Ghatpendhari - Shrikrishna Admachi joined as fire-watcher with Bandu's help (left); Ghoti - Yashwant Lanjewar posing with Livestock management training certificate issued by Animal Husbandry Department (right)*

**Mobile Health Service (MHS)**

There were 6 medical camps in March in which 278 patients were treated.

Sr. no.	Date	Village	No. of Patients
1	Mar 3	Ghoti	43
2.		Ghoti Lahan	60
3.	Mar 4	Kirangi Sarra	52
4.		Khudsapar	40
5.	Mar 5	Khapa	35
6.		Sawara	48
<b>Total Patients</b>			<b>278</b>





*Khudsapar - Dr. Bhasme treats patients at our free medical camp*