

**PENCH MAHARASHTRA  
JULY 2015**

**Team:** Mandar Pingle – *Conservation Officer*  
Bandu Uikey, Dilip Lanjewar – *Field Assistants*

**Highlights**

- ⇒ *One soak pit dug in Pipariya*
- ⇒ *One shramdhaan to repair and clean soak pit in Ghatpendari*
- ⇒ *One shramdhaan to repair water pipeline in Salai*
- ⇒ *Celebrated World Nature Conservation Day at Pipariya, Sawara and Ghatpendari*
- ⇒ *Celebrated Global Tiger Day at Sawara and Ghatpendari*
- ⇒ *2,186 saplings planted during 19 tree plantation programmes in 14 villages*
- ⇒ *Three nature trails held for students of Ghoti and Ghatpendari – 48 students participated*
- ⇒ *Bandu and Dilip joined Forest Department staff on anti-poaching patrols twice each*
- ⇒ *Organized classroom lectures on nature education in 11 schools - attended by 311 students*
- ⇒ *Organised 7 film shows on wildlife conservation – attended by 804 students*
- ⇒ *Assisted Saila Dance Group from Sawara village in earning 5,000/-*
- ⇒ *Assisted one youth from Ghatpendari village in getting a job with Forest Department*

**Conservation work**

<b>S.no.</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Village / Place</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Participants</b>
1.	July 28	Pipariya	Soak pit	10
2.	July 21	Salai (West Pench)	Water pipeline repair	10
3.	July 28	Ghatpendhari	Soak pit cleaned and repaired	08
4.	July 10	Datizira	Patrolling	03
5.	July 17	Bandra Nallah	Patrolling	04
6.	July 31	Khapa	VEDC Patrolling	06
7.	July 27	Wagholi	VEDC Patrolling	06
8.	July 17	Ghoti	Nature Trail	20
9.	July 31	Ghoti	Nature Trail	10
10.	July 26	Ghatpendhari	Nature Trail	18
11.	July 01	Ghatpendhari	Tree Plantation program	60
12.	July 02	Dhawlapur	Tree Plantation program	50
13.	July 02	Sawangi	Tree Plantation program	25
14.	July 02	Salai	Tree Plantation program	30
15.	July 03	Suwardhara	Tree Plantation program	75

16.	July 03	Chargaon	Tree Plantation program	150
17.	July 03	Shiladevi	Tree Plantation program	20
18.	July 03	Kolitmara	Tree Plantation program	25
19.	July 03	Narhar	Tree Plantation program	25
20.	July 28	Ghatpendhari	Tree Plantation program	20
21.	July 30	Ghatpendhari	Tree Plantation program	50
22.	July 01	Ghoti	Tree Plantation program	
23.	July 01	Ghoti	Tree Plantation program	
24.	July 02	Dahoda	Tree Plantation program	
25.	July 03	Sawara	Tree Plantation program	
26.	July 04	Dahoda	Tree Plantation program	
27.	July 05	Pipariya	Tree Plantation program	
28.	July 06	Wagholi	Tree Plantation program	
29.	July 07	Kirangisarra	Tree Plantation program	
30.				

On July 21, Bandu organized a shramdhaan programme at Salai to repair a water pipeline the village. 10 villagers participated in the programme. The water pipeline had broken causing wastage of water. Due to the rains, the impurities were mixing with the water inside the pipeline making the water unfit to drink. The road had also become slippery, making it dangerous for villagers.

He also organized another shramdhaan programme to clean and repair a soak pit in Ghatpendari village. 20 villagers participated in this shramdhaan programme. The soak pit, near a hand pump, had become unclean due to mud clogging the pit after heavy rains. Weeds had also grown near the hand pump. This could have made people ill as the hand pump is used for filling potable water.

On July 28, World Nature Conservation Day, Mandar and Dilip led 10 youths from Pipariya village to prepare a soak pit to collect spillover water from the hand pump. He explained how the pit helps recharge the water table and the importance of water conservation to the participants. He explained the importance of the day and the purpose of soak pits to the participants.

Later, Mandar and Dilip organized an awareness rally in Sawara village with the help of 105 students and teachers of Zilla Parishad (ZP) School. The students raised slogans to make people understand the importance of the day and to encourage them to proactively conserve natural resources.

A film show was also organized by Mandar and Dilip for 350 students of Nav Jeevan High School, Pathrai to celebrate the day. Mandar explained to the students the importance of the day and encouraged them to take interest and volunteer in conservation activities.

The students also expressed their desire to contribute towards protecting Mother Nature. In West Pench, to celebrate the occasion, Bandu organized a shramdhaan to clean the area near a hand pump and to clean the soak pit. Bandu explained to the villagers that it is our responsibility to save water, a precious natural resource, and to keep our surroundings clean. 10 villagers came forward to help in the shramdhaan programme.



*Soak pit cleaning (left) in Ghatpendari and soak pit construction (right) in Pipariya village*



*World Nature Conservation Day 2016 celebrations*

On July 29, Global Tiger Day, Mandar and Dilip organized a classroom lecture followed by a movie show for 105 students of ZP school, Sawara. They explained the importance of day and the need for tiger protection. They also explained the importance of tiger as an umbrella species in the ecosystem. The message “Save Tigers, Save Humanity” was passed on to the students.

Mandar and Dilip arranged to show a movie ‘Truth about Tigers’ to 25 students of ZP school, Wagholi and 90 students of ZP school Ghoti respectively. A documentary on the life of a famous tigress from Kanha Tiger Reserve, ‘Kanha Laxmi’, was then shown to 200 students of ZP school, Dahoda.

To celebrate Global Tiger Day in West Pench, Bandu organized a tree plantation drive. He encouraged 20 students of ZP School, Ghatpendhari to plant saplings of local tree species. Bandu explained to students that climate change, loss of habitat and poaching are all contributing to decline in tiger population. He told students that by planting more trees, we can improve the green cover which will slow down climate change and provide suitable habitat for the tigers. The students and teachers actively took part in the celebrations.



*Satpuda Foundation staff celebrating Global Tiger Day 2016 in various villages*

Dilip joined village eco-development committee (VEDC) members and Forest Department staff on patrols on July 21 and 31 at Wagholi and Khapa villages. The team patrolled the borders of the villages looking for signs of illegal activities. Bandu joined similar patrols on July 10 and 17 in West PENCH Range. No illegal activity was detected on these patrols.



*Bandu (left) and Dilip (right) join Forest Dept. staff and villagers on patrols*

In July, Bandu and Dilip took students on a total of 3 nature trails during which they spoke to the students about birds, trees and forests. The impact of degradation of natural resources was explained to the students.



*Bandu (left) and Dilip (right) teaching kids about trees, birds and nature on nature trails*

In the month of July, Satpuda Foundation organized 19 tree plantation programmes in 14 villages. Bandu Uikey helped plant 1,535 trees in Ghatpendari, Dhawlapur, Sawangi, Salai, Suwardhara, Chargaon, Shiladevi, Koltimara and Narhar villages while Dilip helped plant 881 trees in Ghoti, Dahoda, Sawara, Pipariya, Wagholi and Kirangisarra villages with the help of villagers, students and teachers.

They distributed saplings of local tree species like jamun, sitaphal, amla, neem, mahua, bamboo etc to the farmers, villagers and students. The saplings were planted along the sides of village roads, on school campuses, Gram Panchayat campuses and other public places.



*Plantation drive organized by Satpuda Foundation in West Pench range*

### *Environmental Education*

<b>S.no.</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Village</b>	<b>Number of students</b>
1.	July 20	Zilla Parishad Primary School (ZPPS)	Kadbikheda	<b>40</b>
2.	July 18	ZPPS	Sillari	<b>11</b>
3.	July 16	ZPUPS	Ghoti	<b>76</b>
4.	July 18	ZPPS	Khapa	<b>15</b>
5.	July 26	ZPUPS	Sawara	<b>60</b>
6.	July 25	ZPPS	Khudsapar	<b>10</b>
7.	July 21	ZPPS	Wagholi	<b>20</b>
8.	July 07	ZPPS	Ghatpendari	<b>18</b>
9.	July 16	ZPHS	Suwardhara	<b>30</b>
10.	July 28	ZPPS	Salai	<b>15</b>
11.	July 25	ZPPS	Narhar	<b>16</b>
<b>Total</b>				<b>311</b>



*Dilip interacting with students at Kadbikheda (left) and Bandu with students of Suwardhara village (right)*

### **Employment Cell**

<b>S. no.</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Village</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Qual.</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Job</b>	<b>Salary</b>
1.	July 01	Ghatpendhari	Kripalal Kodwate	12 <sup>th</sup>	26	Daily Wage worker, Forest Department	8300/-

Mandar and Dilip assisted the Saila Dance group from Sawara to earn 5,000/- by arranging a dance performance in Madhya Pradesh Tourism Resort in Turia village.

The Saila Dance Group was formed by Satpuda Foundation and is mentored by us. We had organised a group of villagers and encouraged them to practice tribal dances and to give performances in resorts as a means of earning additional income while also keeping a traditional art form alive.

### **Education Van Programme**

We organised 7 film shows in July.

S.no.	Date	Place	Movie	Participants
1.	July 28	Sawara	Kanha Laxmi	102
2.	July 28	Pathrai	Kanha Laxmi	350
3.	July 29	Wagholi	Truth About Tigers	25
4.	July 29	Dahoda	Kanha Laxmi	200
5.	July 29	Ghoti	Truth About Tigers, Sunderbans Tiger Reserve	90
6.	July 30	Khapa	Jal Yodhha	17
7.	July 30	Pipariya	Kanha Laxmi	20
			<b>Total</b>	<b>804</b>