

**PENCH TIGER RESERVE, MAHARASHTRA
JANUARY 2019**

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

Highlights

- ⇒ *Two foot patrols*
- ⇒ *One check dam built near Kadbikheda*
- ⇒ *One anti-plastic shramdhaan programme*
- ⇒ *Two awareness meetings about village eco-development committee (VEDC)*
- ⇒ *Four nature trails for students; 58 students participated*
- ⇒ *Two celebrations to mark important days in the ‘eco-calendar’*
- ⇒ *17 school education programs conducted; 370 students participated*
- ⇒ *Eight film shows; 792 students participated*
- ⇒ *IT education program at Sawara*
- ⇒ *Four youths placed in jobs*
- ⇒ *Three meetings with self-help groups (SHGs) to assist them with livelihood initiatives*
- ⇒ *Six free medical camps; 216 patients treated*

Conservation Action and Awareness

Sr.no.	Date	Village / Place	Activity	Participants
1.	Jan 6	Dhawlapur Beat	Patrol in jungle	4
2.	Jan 13	Ambazari Beat	--do--	4
3.	Jan 1	Kadbikheda	Check dam construction	9
4.	Jan 24	Chargaon	Anti-plastic campaign	16
5.	Jan 15	Pipariya	Nature trail	10
6.	Jan 15	Ghatpendari	--do--	19
7.	Jan 16	Narhar	--do--	17
8.	Jan 17	Shiladevi	--do--	12
9.	Jan 26	Dahoda	Awareness meeting about VEDC and its benefits	90
10.	Jan 26	Chargaon	--do--	40
11.	Jan 26	Ghoti	Republic Day celebration- Awareness programme on forest fires	120
12.	Jan 26	Chargaon	Republic Day Celebration- Awareness rally	60
Total participants				401

On January 1, a check dam was constructed in Kadbikheda by Dilip and volunteers from the village to ensure that that water is available for nearby agricultural fields and for

livestock in the village throughout the year. The check dam will also be a water source for nocturnal wildlife in the region.

On January 24, Balkrishna organized a plastic litter collection drive in Chargaon. During the shramdhaan program, Balkrishna explained the hazards of plastic waste for both environment and human health.

Balkrishna explained to the students that plastic and non-degradable waste was causing irreparable damage to the ecosystem and adversely affecting birds and other life forms.



Kadbikheda- Dilip with volunteers after check dam construction (left); Chargaon- Balkrishna with students during an anti-plastic campaign (right)

On January 6, Balkrishna led a team of four VEDC members from Dhawlapur village on a foot patrol in the forest area near their village. The team was on the look-out for signs of illegal tree felling or poaching during the patrol.

Separately, Balkrishna also joined the Forest Department staff on a foot patrol in the Ambazari beat in compartment no. 211 on January 13.



Dhawlapur Beat- Balkrishna during foot patrol exercise (left)

On January 26, Dilip organized a meeting in Dahoda to make the villagers aware about the formation process and benefits of a village eco-development committee (VEDC). Dilip read out the Govt. Resolution (GR) and explained how VEDC formation in some

villages has helped in village development and in reduction of conflict through funds utilized from Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Jan-Van Yojna.

A similar program was organized by Balkrishna on January 26 in Chargaon.



Chargaon- Balkrishna during meeting on VEDC (right)

Environment Education

In January, Balkrishna conducted a total of 17 school education programs in which students were given lectures on man-animal conflict, biodiversity conservation, climate change and other issues related to nature conservation.

A total of 370 students attended these programs.

School Education Programs

Sr. No.	Date	School	Village	Number of students
1.	Jan 3	ZP School	Ghoti	60
2.	Jan 4	ZP School	Kirangi Sarra	10
3.	Jan 5	ZP School	Khapa	21
4.	Jan 8	ZP School	Sawara	30
5.	Jan 11	ZP School	Kadbikheda	38
6.	Jan 16	ZP School	Wagholi	17
7.	Jan 22	ZP School	Khudsapar	9
8.	Jan 23	ZP School	Pipariya	22
9.	Jan 23	ZP School	Sillari	11
10.	Jan 3	ZP School	Suwardhara	18
11.	Jan 4	ZP School	Awaleghat	25
12.	Jan 5	ZP School	Chargaon	17
13.	Jan 7	ZP School	Dhawalapur	27
14.	Jan 8	ZP School	Narhar	18
15.	Jan 9	ZP School	Ghatpendari	19
16.	Jan 10	ZP School	Shiladevi	12
17.	Jan 11	ZP School	Ambazari	16
Total Participants				370



Narhar-Balkrishna during a school education program (left)

Dilip conducted a nature trail program for school children of Pipariya on January 15. He spoke to the students about the importance of conserving local flora and fauna and their role in wildlife conservation. He spoke to the students about spiders, their dwelling, types of spiders and how spiders are useful to humans.

Similar programs were carried out by Balkrishna in Ghatpendari, Narhar and Shiladevi.

On January 26, an awareness program was conducted by Dilip in Ghoti School regarding forest fires on the occasion of Republic Day.

A similar program was conducted by Balkrishna on January 26 at Chargaon, where an awareness rally was carried out.



Narhar- Balkrishna with students during a nature trail (left)



Ghoti- Dilip during Republic Day celebrations (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 2013. Basic computer skills are taught to the students to make them feel comfortable with technology and improve their IT skills. Sita Uikey, a resident of Sawara

village, works on an honorarium basis for Satpuda Foundation to impart IT education to students. Four such classes were held in January in ZP School, Sawara for the students of this village.



Sawara- Sita during IT education program classes (right)

Education Van Program

The education van conducted eight wildlife movie screenings in January. Eight school programs were conducted in which movies like “The girl gang of Teliya”, “Truth about Tigers”, “Tiger Song” and a movie on Hemalkassa were screened.

A total of 792 students attended these programs.

The education van started its operations in three new schools in the PENCH-NAGZIRA corridor. These schools were in Mangarli, Rongha and Khapa khurd villages.

Sr. No.	Date	Place	Village	Movie	Number of students
1.	Jan 28	ZP School	Ghoti	Girl Gang of Teliya	65
2.		Ashram School	Dahoda	--do--	87
3.	Jan 29	ZP School	Sawara	--do--	75
4.		ZP School	Kadbikheda	--do--	40
5.		Ashram School	Nimtola	--do--	200
6.	Jan 30	Ashram School	Khapa Khurd	Truth about Tigers	105
7.		ZP School	Rongha	--do--	160
8.		ZP School	Mangarli	--do--	60
<i>Total Participants</i>					792



Dahoda- Education van film show program (left); Nimtola- Education van film show program (right)

Employment Cell

During January, we assisted 4 youths in getting jobs locally. These youths were earlier trained in driving and motor mechanic trade in programmes organised by us.

Placement

Sr. No.	Name	Village	Age	Qual.	Company	Salary/ month (Rs.)
1.	Dinesh Sukhlal Nagwanshi	Shiladevi	20	10 th	Helper at HG Company	7000
2.	Anil Tulsiram Tumdam	Shiladevi	21	10 th	Driver at HG Company	11000
3.	Sagar Shamrao Bagmare	Chargaon	23	12 th	Driver at HG Company	12000
4.	Saurabh Waman Botre	Suwardhara	19	10 th	Showroom asst. at Ashok Leyland Nagpur	7000

On December 9, Dilip conducted a meeting with SHG members in Ghoti. He discussed cloth bag making, paper bag making and mushroom cultivation initiatives with the SHG members.

On December 12, Balkrishna conducted a meeting with SHG members in Shiladevi. He discussed mushroom cultivation and its economic benefits with the SHG members.

On December 20, Dilip conducted a meeting with SHG members in Wagholi. He discussed cloth bag making and paper bag making initiatives with the SHG members. He also provided training to SHG members on paper bag making.

Livelihood activities & meetings:

Sr.no.	Date	Village / Place	Livelihood Activity	Participants
1.	Jan 9	Ghoti	SHG Livelihood meeting	22
2.	Jan 12	Shiladevi	SHG Mushroom training meeting	9
3.	Jan 20	Wagholi	SHG Paper bag training	13
Total Participants				44



Wagholi- Paper bag making training for SHG members



Ghoti- Dilip during a SHG meeting with women (left); Shiladevi- Balkrishna during a SHG meeting with women (right)

Mobile Health Service (MHS)

Six free medical camps were organised in January in which 216 patients were treated. During this camp, general checkups were done for Kolutmara school students and vitamins were distributed to needy students on request by the school supervisor.

S.no.	Date	Village	No. of Patients
1.	Jan 29	Chargaon	58
2.		Makardhokda	23
3.	Jan 30	Saleghat	42
4.		Ambazari	31
5.	Jan 31	Kolutmara	40
6.		Shiladevi	22
<i>Total Patients Treated</i>			<i>216</i>



Kolitmara- Dr. Khode treating patients during the camp