



**PENCH MADHYA PRADESH  
APRIL 2018**

**Team:** Amit Awasthi – *Conservation Officer*  
Niranjan Hinge – *Field Assistants*

**Highlights**

- ⇒ *Organized shramdhaan programme to clean water tank in Satosha village*
- ⇒ *Repaired 2 biogas units in Aamajhiri and Potiya villages*
- ⇒ *Organised shramdhaan to prepare compost tank in Telia village*
- ⇒ *5 awareness programmes on forest fire*
- ⇒ *Celebrated Vishwa Vasundhara Divas in buffer villages at Potiya village*
- ⇒ *Installed water pots for birds in Potiya and Durgapur village*
- ⇒ *6 classroom education lectures organised - 150 students attended*
- ⇒ *7 film shows on nature and wildlife – attended by 287 students*
- ⇒ *2 nature trails for school children – attended by 37 students*
- ⇒ *Organised 6 medical camps, 139 patients treated*
- ⇒ *Assisted 1 unemployed youth in getting a job*
- ⇒ *Assisted two women self help groups (SHGs) to connect with National Rural Livelihood Mission*

**Conservation work**

S.no.	Date	Village / Place	Activity	Participants
1.	April 27	Durgapur	Water tank cleaning	12
2.	April 12	Potiya	Biogas repaired	2
3.	April 29	Aamajhiri	Biogas repaired	2
4.	April 23	Telia	Compost pit dug	2
5.	April 10	Telia	Awareness programme on forest fires	22
6.	April 11	Durgapur	-----do-----	28
7.	April 15	Doodhgaon	-----do-----	17
8.	April 16	Kundai	-----do-----	14
9.	April 18	Khamrith	-----do-----	16
10.	April 22	Durgapur	Celebrated Vishwa Vasundhara Divas (World Earth Day)	16
11.	April 18	Ambadi	Nature trail	11
12.	April 22	Potiya	Nature trail	16
13.	April 12	Durgapur	Installed water pot for birds	8
14.	April 22	Potiya	Installed water pot for birds	12

On April 27, Niranjan Hinge along with 12 villagers of Durgapur village cleaned a water tank near a hand pump through a shramdhaan programme. During the summer season, water scarcity for cattle makes cattle wander near the forest area in search of water. There is a high

risk of the cattle being killed by carnivores like tigers or leopards leading to human-wildlife conflict.

Diseases can also be transmitted from the domestic cattle to the wild herbivore species. Niranjana encouraged the villagers to clean water tank near a hand pump inside the village so that the cattle do not have to venture close to the forest area.



*Villagers cleaning a water tank for cattle in Durgapur village*

On April 12 Niranjana Hinge repaired a faulty biogas unit in Potiya village. Biogas helps reduce villagers' dependence on firewood from forest areas. Biogas stoves also emit less smoke than firewood and are therefore healthier for the villagers.

Niranjana repaired another biogas unit in Aamajhiri village on April 29.



*Niranjana repairing a biogas stove in Aamajhiri village*

On April 23, Niranjana and 2 volunteers from Telia prepared a compost pit in the backyard of Mahesh Raut. The organic waste from the farm was used along with cow dung and kitchen manure to fill the compost pit. The compost will be ready to use in around 3 months.

Niranjana explained to Raut that using organic compost will help improve the soil quality and also save him money which he would have spent in buying chemical-based fertilisers.



*Villagers prepare compost pit in Telia village*

In April, our team organised awareness programmes on forest fires in Durgapur, Telia, Khamrith, Doodhgaon and Kundai. Fires are a recurring hazard during summers. Sometimes, villagers start fires as they believe that tendu leaves sprout better after such fires. Collection of tendu leaves takes place during April. In our awareness programmes, we explained the dangers that such fires cause to the forest and to wildlife and how they could harm villages if they blazed out of control.



*Amit Awasthi conducts awareness programme on forest fires at Durgapur*

On April 22, Niranjana celebrated Vishwa Vasundhara Divas by organising a nature trail and installing water pots for birds in Potiya village. Niranjana took 16 children on a nature trail near their village. During the nature trail, Niranjana taught the children how to identify pugmarks and hoofmarks of wild animals. The children were amazed to know that many wild animals venture near their village farms. During the nature trail, the children were able to spot various birds like drongo, bay-backed shrike, shikra and spotted owlets. Niranjana also provided information on flora of Pench to the children. Later, Niranjana along with these children installed water pots for birds at various locations in their village.

On April 12, Niranjana along with 8 kids of Durgapur village installed artificial water pots in their village for birds during the summer season. Niranjana encouraged the kids to regularly fill up the water pots with water so that the birds can drink water during dry summer season. Immediately after the pots were installed, the kids were able to spot various birds like bulbuls, sunbirds, shrikes, sparrows, magpie robins etc at the water pots.



*Team prepares water pots for birds at Potiya village*

In April, we organised 2 nature trails for the children of Ambadi and Potiya villages. On the trails, our staff spoke to the children about the various plants and common medicinal uses of those plants. They were also taught how to spot and identify birds. The importance of birds in nature also explained to the children. A total of 37 children participated in the programmes.



*Children of Potiya village engaged in bird-watching on nature trail*

### ***Environmental Education Programme***

There were 6 environment education programmes in classrooms during April.

<b>S.no.</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Village</b>	<b>Number of participants</b>
1	April 6	Govt Middle school	Kohoka	33
2	April 10	Govt Middle school	Khamrith	24
3	April 17	Govt Middle school	Aamajhiri	31
4	April 18	Govt Middle school	Telia	24
5	April 20	Govt Primary School	Satosha	20
6	April 20	Govt Primary School	Khamba	18
			<b>Total</b>	<b>150</b>



*Niranjan conducts environment education programme in village school*

### ***Education Van Programme***

There were 7 film shows during April.

<b>S.no.</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>Movie</b>	<b>Participants</b>
1.	April 19	Thuyepani	Land of Tiger	36
2.		Sawri	-----do-----	42
3.	April 20	Chirrewani	-----do-----	28
4.		Deori	-----do-----	23
5.		Kundai	-----do-----	90
6.	April 21	Mohgaon	-----do-----	31
7.		Doodhgaon	-----do-----	37
8.			<b>Total</b>	<b>287</b>



*Villagers watch film on nature and wildlife at Deori*

### ***Employment Cell***

We helped one youth get a job in April.

<b>Sr. no.</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Village</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Qual.</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Salary</b>	<b>Type of work</b>
1.	April 10	Potiya	Manit Adambe	12 <sup>th</sup> pass	20	5,000/- rupees per month, including lodging and food	Housekeeping at Mahua Van Resort, Turiya





*Manit Adambe of Potiya who got a job at Mahua Van Resort, Turiya*

In April, our team assisted 15 women in re-activating Srushti women's self help group. The group was also registered in National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) through which it received a start-up revolving fund of 15,000/- rupees. The group will be able to utilise the funds to start a micro or small scale enterprise. The group was also provided documents pertaining to book keeping and accounting from the Zilla Panchayat, Seoni.

Mrs Abida Bi, Project co-ordinator, NRLM, Kurai block, spoke with the members in this regard and provided more information regarding various schemes.

Our staff assisted 12 women of Turiya village to form a new self help group. The new group is named Roshni Self Help Group. Our staff also assisted this group to register with NRLM.



*Members of Srushti and Roshni SHGs interact with NRLM officer*

### ***Mobile Health Service (MHS)***

We held 6 medical camps in April, in which 165 patients were treated free of cost.

<b>Sr. no.</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Village</b>	<b>Patients</b>
1.	April 7	Jamuntola	22
2.		Kohoka	10
3.	Apr 09	Turiya	43
4.		Awarghani	8
5.	Apr 10	Durgapur	30
6.		Potiya	26
	<b>Total</b>		<b>139</b>



*Dr. Ashutosh Tiwari examines a patient during free medical camp in Turiya village*