



**PENCH MADHYA PRADESH  
MARCH 2018**

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

**Highlights**

- ⇒ *2 shramdhaans for community assistance – area next to hand pumps cleaned in 2 villages*
- ⇒ *One Azolla tank created for cattle in Thuyepani*
- ⇒ *2 programmes on how to celebrate Holy in eco-friendly manner*
- ⇒ *World Water Day celebrated with conservation rally at Kundai*
- ⇒ *2 biogas units repaired by Niranjan Hinge*
- ⇒ *4 compost pits prepared at Khamarpani cluster*
- ⇒ *4 awareness programme on importance of Azolla grass and forest fires*
- ⇒ *4 nature trails – attended by 45 students*
- ⇒ *World Sparrow Day celebrated. Installed water pots for birds in 2 villages*
- ⇒ *Painting of conservation slogans on walls in 3 villages*
- ⇒ *15 classroom education lectures organised - 336 students attended*
- ⇒ *6 film shows on nature and wildlife – attended by 245 students*
- ⇒ *6 medical camps organised– 253 patients treated*

| <b>S. no.</b> | <b>Date</b> | <b>Village / Place</b> | <b>Activity</b>   | <b>Participants</b> |
|---------------|-------------|------------------------|---|---------------------|
| 1.            | March 24    | Telia                  | Shramdhaan programme to clear area next to hand pump and tank | 07                  |
| 2.            | March 25    | Thuyepani              | -----do-----  | 08                  |
| 3.            | March 19    | Thuyepani              | Azolla tank built   | 10                  |
| 4.            | March 1     | Satosha                | Programme on eco-friendly Holi                                | 12                  |
| 5.            | March 1     | Potiya                 | -----do-----  | 15                  |
| 6.            | March 1     | Mohgaon                | -----do-----  | 12                  |
| 7.            | March 22    | Kundai                 | Conservation rally  | 34                  |
| 8.            | March 10    | Turiya                 | Biogas repaired at Kundlik Rao Hinge's residence              | 03                  |
| 9.            | March 19    | Aamajhiri              | Biogas repaired at Nandlal Hinge's residence                  | 03                  |
| 10.           | March 4     | Chirrewani             | Compost pit dug at Kamal Singh Parteti's residence            | 03                  |
| 11.           | March 18    | Thuyepani              | Compost pit dug at Aakash                                     | 04                  |

|     |          |            |   |    |
|-----|----------|------------|---|----|
|     |          |            | Dhurvey's residence   |    |
| 12. | March 26 | Kundai     | Compost pit dug at Sahasram Farkare's residence                           | 02 |
| 13. | March 27 | Mohgaon    | Compost pit dug at Rajkumar Balerao's residence                           | 03 |
| 14. | March 13 | Durgapur   | Awareness programme on benefits of Azolla grass and impact of forest fire | 13 |
| 15. | March 17 | Thuyepani  | -----do-----  | 16 |
| 16. | March 22 | Ambadi     | -----do-----  | 14 |
| 17. | March 23 | Potiya     | -----do-----  | 18 |
| 18. | March 11 | Durgapur   | Nature Trail Programme  | 13 |
| 19. | March 18 | Potiya     | -----do-----  | 20 |
| 20. | March 3  | Thuyepani  | -----do-----  | 09 |
| 21. | March 25 | Doodhgaon  | -----do-----  | 07 |
| 22. | March 20 | Durgapur   | World Sparrow Day celebrated. Installed water pots                        | 14 |
| 23. | March 20 | Mohgaon    | World Sparrow Day celebrated. Installed water pots                        | 07 |
| 24. | March 7  | Chirrewani | Painting of conservation slogans on walls in village                      | 03 |
| 25. | March 8  | Khamarpani | -----do-----  | 02 |
| 26. | March 14 | Pulpuldoh  | -----do-----  | 02 |

On March 24, Niranjan Hinge along with 7 villagers of Telia village cleaned a water tank near a hand-pump through a shramdhaan programme. During the summer season, water scarcity makes cattle to wander into the forest area in search of water. There is a high risk of the cattle being killed by carnivores like tiger or a leopard leading to human-wildlife conflict. Also diseases like foot and mouth can also be transmitted from the cattle to the wild herbivores. Hence, Niranjan encouraged the villagers to clean a water tank near a hand pump inside the village. Now the cattle do not have to venture close to the forest area.

A similar shramdhaan programme was organised at Thuyepani on March 25.



*Villagers of Thuyepani prepare soak pit (left); villagers pose near completed pit (right)*

On March 19, one Azolla tank was built for cattle and poultry at Sirpat Khapre's house at Thuyepani. Azolla feed will improve milk productivity of the milch animals and also improve the quality of meat of the poultry animals. This will help reduce the cattle dependence on forest fodder.



*Thuyepani - Azolla tank at Shripat Khapre's house*

Holi is a major Hindu festival and is normally celebrated by people splashing water and colours on each other. Normally, a lot of water is wasted and chemicals in the colours contaminate the soil and water bodies. Further, bonfires are lit and branches and trees are cut for firewood. In our programmes, we explained the harm that is caused to the environment by such activities and encouraged people to celebrate the festival in a more eco-friendly manner. Instead of using firewood, villagers are advised to burn rubbish and waste materials or cow dung.

We organised 3 programmes on March 1 at Mohgaon, Potiya and Satosha.



*Potiya - Niranjan Hinge conducts programme on how to celebrate Holi in eco-friendly manner*

On March 22, World Water Day, our team organised a function at Government Middle School, Kundai, to promote awareness about water conservation. As part of our programme, we organised a rally in which around 34 students walked through the village, chanting slogans on water, wildlife and nature conservation. Staff of Middle School and Primary School participated along with the students.



*Kundai - Students of Government Middle school raise slogans during rally*

On March 10, Niranjana repaired a defective biogas unit in a household from Turiya village. The stove unit had waste material accumulated in the gas outlet which had blocked the gas flow. Niranjana also checked the biogas digester tank for faults. 3 villagers assisted him.

On March 19, Niranjana performed similar repair in another house in Aamajhiri.



*Niranjana repairing biogas stove units in Aamajhiri village*

Our team encourages organic farming as part of our strategy to reduce the impact of chemical fertilisers on fields adjoining prime wildlife areas. Part of our work includes assistance to villagers in setting up vermi-compost tanks and compost pits. During March, we helped 4 villagers dig compost pits – Kamal Singh Parteti of Chirrewani on March 4, Aakash Dhurwey of Thuyepani on March 18, Sahasram Farkare of Kundai on March 26, and Rajkumar Balerao of Mohgaon on March 27.



*Mohgaon - Compost pit built with our assistance at Rajkumar Bhalerao's house*

During the month, Amit organised 4 awareness programmes to promote awareness about the benefits of Azolla feed. He also used the meetings to motivate villagers to assist in fighting fires in the forest. Details of the programmes are given in the table above.



*Telia - Niranjan Hinge conducts awareness programme in village*

In March, a total of 4 nature trails were organised by Kamlesh and Niranjan for the children of Doodhgaon, Thuyepani, Durgapur and Potiya villages. On the trails, our staff spoke to the children about the various plants and common medicinal uses of those plants. They also spotted and identified local birds during the trails and explained their role in nature.



*Kamlesh with students on a nature trail*

On March 20, we celebrated World Sparrow Day in Mohgaon village. With the summer heat at its peak, our team has been motivating villagers to put up containers with water so that birds and small animals can quench their thirst. Around 40 containers were put up in 2 villages.



*Mohgaon - Villager fill water pot for birds*

During the month, we arranged for conservation slogans to be painted on walls of buildings in prominent places in 3 villages to promote awareness about conservation.



*Chirrewani- Conservation slogan painted on wall*

### ***Education***

There were 15 environment education programmes in classrooms during March.

| <b>S. no.</b> | <b>Date</b> | <b>School</b>       | <b>Village</b> | <b>Number of participants</b> |
|---------------|-------------|---------------------|----------------|-------------------------------|
| 1.            | March 6     | Govt Middle school  | Potiya         | 34                            |
| 2.            | March 9     | Govt Primary School | Telia          | 32                            |
| 3.            | March 13    | Govt Middle school  | Aamajhiri      | 31                            |
| 4.            | March 22    | Govt Primary school | Ambadi         | 24                            |
| 5.            | March 27    | Govt Primary School | Awarghani      | 20                            |
| 6.            | March 3     | Govt Middle School  | Thuyepani      | 20                            |
| 7.            | March 5     | Govt. Middle School | Kundai         | 18                            |
| 8.            | March 7     | Govt Middle School  | Chirrewani     | 16                            |
| 9.            | March 8     | Govt High School    | Khamarpani     | 32                            |

|     |         |                     |              |            |
|-----|---------|---------------------|--------------|------------|
| 10. | March13 | Govt Primary School | Sawri        | 23         |
| 11. | March14 | Govt Primary School | Pulpuldoh    | 19         |
| 12. | March17 | Govt Middle School  | Deori        | 28         |
| 13. | March23 | Govt Primary School | Mohgaon      | 10         |
| 14. | March24 | Govt Primary School | Marjatpur    | 14         |
| 15. | March26 | Govt Primary School | Bisenpur     | 15         |
|     |         |                     | <b>Total</b> | <b>336</b> |



*Pulpuldoh - Kamlesh Pawar talks to students about migratory birds*

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### ***Education van programme***

There were 6 film shows on nature and wildlife conservation in March

| Sr. no. | Date    | Village  | Film name                     | Participants |
|---------|---------|----------|-------------------------------|--------------|
| 1       | March15 | Durgapur | Land Of Tiger<br>B.B.C.part-2 | 36           |
| 2       |         | Potiya   | ----do----                    | 78           |
| 3       | March16 | Khamba   | ----do----                    | 29           |
| 4       |         | Ambadi   | ----do----                    | 31           |
| 5       | March17 | Kohoka   | ----do---                     | 42           |
| 6       |         | Telia    | ----do---                     | 29           |
|         |         |          | <b>Total</b>                  | <b>245</b>   |



*Khamba - Villagers watch film on nature and wildlife conservation*

*Mobile Health Service programme*

| <b>S. No.</b> | <b>Date</b> | <b>Village</b> | <b>Participants</b> |
|---------------|-------------|----------------|---------------------|
| 1             | March10     | Thuyepani      | 48                  |
| 2             |             | Kundai         | 62                  |
| 3             | March11     | Pulpuldoh      | 38                  |
| 4             |             | Kanargaon      | 36                  |
| 5             | March12     | Doodhgaon      | 37                  |
| 6             |             | Sawri          | 32                  |
|               |             | <b>Total</b>   | <b>253</b>          |



*Dr Burade examines patients at free camp in Kundai*