

**PENCH MADHYA PRADESH
SEPTEMBER 2017**

Team: Mandar Pingle – *Conservation Officer*
Bandu Uikey – *Conservation Officer*
Niranjan Hinge, Kamlesh Pawar – *Field Assistants*

Highlights

- ⇒ *One check dam built*
- ⇒ *Three compost pits prepared*
- ⇒ *Organized rally with conservation message; anti plastic drive*
- ⇒ *4 nature trails – attended by 41 students*
- ⇒ *Observed World Ozone Day in Khamarpani – 34 students attended*
- ⇒ *Organised meeting in Khamarpani for unemployed youths regarding driver's training programme– 133 youths attended*
- ⇒ *Organised meeting and training for unemployed women from Durgapur to help start self help group – 15 women attended session*
- ⇒ *13 environment education lectures – attended by 435 students*
- ⇒ *6 medical camps at which 311 patients were treated*

Conservation work

S.no.	Date	Village / Place	Activity	Participants
1.	Sept 15	Kundai	Compost pit dug	12
2.	Sept 29	Mohgaon (Khurd)	Check dam prepared	06
3.	Sept 12	Doodhgaon	Anti-plastic rally and cleanliness drive organised	40
4.	Sept 16	Dewari	World Ozone Day celebrated	34
5.	Sept 12	Mohgaon (Khurd)	Nature trail	08
6.	Sept 14	Thuyepani	Nature trail	13
7.	Sept 18	Doodhgaon	Nature trail	10
8.	Sept 05	Marjatpur	Plantation programme organised; 50 saplings planted	
9.	Sept 18	Ambadi	Compost tank prepared	05
10.	Sept 22	Ambadi	Compost tank prepared	08
11.	Sept 24	Turiya	Plantation programme organised, 07 saplings planted	
12.	Sept 26	Durgapur	Plantation programme organised, 15 saplings planted	
13.	Sept 03	Khamba	Nature trail	10
14.	Sept 23	Satosha	Awareness rally organised	48

On September 22, Niranjan led 8 villagers of Ambadi village in a programme to construct a compost pit. The villagers volunteered and prepared the pit after Niranjan

explained to them that they will be able to make use of the organic compost produced in their farms free of cost.

Niranjan also explained the villagers the proper procedure to prepare eco-friendly organic compost using degradable house and farm waste.

Niranjan organised a second similar shramdhaan on September 18 in Ambadi for which 5 villagers volunteered.

Kamlesh organised a similar programme in Kundai village on September 15 during which 12 students of Government Middle School volunteered. Kamlesh explained to them that the organic waste in the school premises can now be turned into compost free of cost.



Ambadi – Volunteers dig a compost pit

On September 29, Kamlesh organised a shramdhaan programme in Mohgaon (Khurd) village to construct a temporary check dam on a stream located near a farm approximately 200 meters from the village settlements. The stream provides drinking water to wildlife during the night and is used for agricultural purposes. By building the check dam, the water will be available for a longer duration and will thus serve both the farmers as well as the wildlife. Kamlesh also explained to the farmers the need to construct more such check dams in order to retain water and silt.



Mohgaon (Khurd) -Farmers pose next to check dam prepared through shramdhaan

On September 12, Kamlesh organised a rally in Doodhgaon in which 40 students and teachers of the village's Government Middle participated. Before the start of the rally, Kamlesh spoke to the students about the harms of plastic litter on human health as well as the environment. Kamlesh urged the students to try and reduce the use of plastic and keep their surroundings clean from plastic waste. The students then joined

Kamlesh in a rally and raised slogans to spread this message to other villagers. The students also picked up plastic trash along the main road passing through the village and their school premises.

In September, a total of 4 nature trails were organised by Kamlesh and Niranjana for the children of Mohgaon, Doodhgaon, Thuyepani and Khamba 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 along the trail and explained their role in nature.

During the month, Kamlesh Pawar and Niranjana Hinge organised plantation programmes in three villages. Kamlesh assisted Thuyepani Gram Panchayat in planting 50 saplings of local tree species like *amla*, *tamarind*, *mahua*, *neem* etc in the school premises with the help of students and teachers. Niranjana planted a total of 22 saplings of mango prepared from the seeds collected by the village children. Niranjana, along with 5 villagers, planted the saplings near farm boundaries.



A farmer from Turiya village planting a sapling near his farm

On September 16, Kamlesh, along with 34 students and teachers of Government Middle school, Khamarpani, celebrated World Ozone Day. On the occasion, Kamlesh, along with the teachers, arranged a classroom session for the students. During the session, Kamlesh explained the concept of ozone depletion and reasons for depletion of ozone layer. He further informed the students about the harms of ozone layer depletion and asked the students to become conscious consumers and shun use of products which contribute to ozone layer depletion.



Thuyepani - Kamlesh speaks to students of Government Middle School about ozone layer depletion

Environmental Education Programme

There were 19 environment education programmes in classrooms during September.

S. no.	Date	School	Village	Number of participants
1.	Sept 01	Govt Middle school	Thuyepani	30
2.	Sept 02	Govt Middle School	Chirrewani	25
3.	Sept 06	Govt High School	Deori	48
4.	Sept 04	Govt Middle school	Kundai	32
5.	Sept 07	Govt Middle school	Dudhgaon	22
6.	Sept 19	Govt Primary School	Kanhargaon	10
7.	Sept 08	Govt Middle School	Puplpuldoh	30
8.	Sept 08	Govt. Primary School	Satosha	49
9.	Sept 13	Govt High School	Khamarpani	34
10.	Sept 22	Govt. Primary School	Ambadi	11
11.	Sept 21	Govt Primary School	Potiya	45
12.	Sept 13	Govt Primary School	Teliya	29
13.	Sept 08	Govt. Primary School	Aamajhiri	70
Total				435



Niranjan (right) and Kamlesh (left) talk to students about various environmental and nature conservation issues during classroom programs

Employment Cell

On September 27 and 28, a meeting was organised by Madhya Pradesh Forest Department, Satpuda Foundation, Ashok Leyland Driver Training Institute, Linga (Chhindwara) and Wildlife Conservation Trust which was attended by a total of 133 youths from villages of Khamarpani buffer area of Priyadarshini Pench Tiger Reserve. During the meeting, the youths were provided information about a month-long residential training course for four-wheeler drivers at Ashok Leyland Driver Training Institute located in Linga near Chhindwara. The cost of lodging and boarding will be borne by Madhya Pradesh Forest Department while the candidates will have to bear the expenses for procurement of license. SDO Mrs Bharati Thakare, RFO Mr Jatav, RO Mr Patvari from Madhya Pradesh Forest Department were present at the meeting.



Khamarpani - Youths from villages of Khamarpani buffer attend meeting to know about driver training programme

On September 25 and 26, Niranjana organised a meeting for 15 women from Durgapur village and provided them information on how to set up self-help groups (SHGs). These women collect non-timber forest produce like *mahua* flowers as a source of income. In order to reduce their dependency on forests for livelihood, Niranjana advised them to start a self-help group. Niranjana gave them training to prepare envelopes and bags from waste paper. Niranjana also briefed them on opening of bank account and managing the income of the group.



Durgapur - Niranjana teaching women to prepare paper bags and paper envelopes from old newspapers

Mobile Health Unit (MHU)

We held 6 medical camps in September, in which 311 patients were treated.

S.no.	Date	Village	Patients
1.	Sept 09	Thuyepani	82
2.		Bisenpur	12
3.	Sept 10	Pulpuldoh	159
4.		Marjatpur	26
5.	Sept 11	Chirrewani	13
6.		Dewari	19
	Total		311