



**SATPURA TIGER RESERVE
APRIL 2018**

Team: Ashfaq Aarbi – Conservation Officer
Hamid Khan – Field assistant

Highlights

- *8 water conservation shramdhaans – 6 water bodies cleaned, 2 check dams built*
- *10 vermi-compost tanks prepared at Matkuli; 4 awareness programmes on vermi-compost*
- *Assisted in fighting fires in forest on 3 occasions*
- *18 awareness programmes on forest fires*
- *5 awareness programmes on need to provide water for birds and putting up of 120 water pots/containers*
- *5 unemployed youths placed in jobs at Indore*
- *Medical camps in 6 villages – 142 patients treated*
- *8 village meetings for selection of candidates for Ujwalla Yojna.*
- *Organized 6 meetings in villages scheduled for relocation to help villagers understand issues*
- *Visit to check on status of 9 villages which have already been relocated*
- *Celebration of Earth Day at Matkuli*

Conservation

S. N.	Date	Village	Activity	No. of participants
1.	April 1	Pisuwa	Cleaning of water body	14
2.	April 1	Chandanpipariya	Cleaning of water body	10
3.	April 2	Tekapar	Cleaning of water body	10
4.	April 3	Mehandikheda	Cleaning of water body	9
5.	April 4	Bindakheda	Cleaning of water body	9
6.	April 5	Khari	Cleaning of water body	8
7.	April 11	Matkuli	Built check dam	33
8.	April 12	Pisuwa	Built check dam	16

During April, we organized 8 programmes related to water conservation.

On April 1, we organized a programme to clean a water body in the jungle near Pisuwa village. The water body, which is located in the buffer zone, was covered with leaves and organic litter and animals were finding it difficult to drink. Our team, consisting of field assistant Hameed Khan and 13 students of Government Primary School Pisuwa, cleared the litter and made the water body accessible to the animals again.

Spotted deer are regularly spotted around this water body while there are occasional sightings of sloth bears and leopards.



Water body being cleaned at Pisuwa (Left) and Chandanpipariya (right)

During the month, we organized similar programmes to clean five more water bodies in the jungle at Chandanpipariya, Tekapar, Mehandikheda, Bindakheda and Khari on April 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5.

On April 11, we organized a programme to build a check dam on a stream around 2 km from Matkuli village. A team comprising of 32 school children from Government Higher Secondary School, Matkuli and Hameed built the dam. The resultant water body will benefit domestic livestock in the day time and wildlife at nights. Spotted deer, monkeys and leopards are spotted in the area



Matkuli- Check dam built by our team

A similar programme was organized at Pisuwa on April 12.

During the month, we organized 4 awareness programmes on vermi-compost and 10 vermi compost tanks were prepared at Matkuli with the support of Agriculture Department. We also trained villagers in making vermi-compost to reduce their dependence on chemical fertilizers.

S. N.	Date	Village	Activity	No. of participants
1	April 3	Mehandikheda	Awareness programme on vermi-compost	24
2	April 4	Bindakheda	Awareness programme on vermi-compost	56
3	April 5	Khari	Awareness programme on vermi-compost	34
4	April 13	Matkuli	Awareness programme on vermi-compost	42



Matkuli – Vermi-compost tanks prepared with our assistance

With the onset of summer, forest fires are a major hazard in the dry, deciduous forests across the landscape. Wherever possible, our teams make it their top priority to assist in fighting fires. During April, Ashfaq and Hameed assisted Forest Department staff in fighting fires on 3 occasions – at Maili Nallah, Mehandikheda and Chakar on April 5, 7 and 9.



During the month, our team organized 18 awareness programmes on forest fires. Fires are a recurring hazard during summers – both deliberate and accidental. Sometimes, villagers start fires as they believe that tendu leaves sprout better after such fires. 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.

In 2 of the meetings, local staff of the Forest Department joined us in addressing the villagers. The details are given in the table below.

S. N.	Date	Village	Activity	No. of par.
1	April 6	Karer	Forest fire awareness programme	27
2	April 7	Aaritodiya	Forest fire awareness programme	35
3	April 8	Chandanpipariya	Forest fire awareness programme	45
4	April 9	Bindakheda	Forest fire awareness programme	49
5	April 10	Pisuwa	Forest fire awareness programme	54
6.	April 11	Mehandikheda	Forest fire awareness programme	29
7.	April 13	Duddi	Forest fire awareness programme	24
8.	April 17	Bandhan	Forest fire awareness programme	23
9.	April 18	Tekapar	Forest fire awareness programme	18
10.	April 19	Chillod	Forest fire awareness programme	57
11.	April 20	Chirrai	Forest fire awareness programme	51
12.	April 21	Khari	Forest fire awareness programme	39

13.	April 22	Matkuli	Forest fire awareness programme	55
14.	April 24	Maili	Forest fire awareness programme	28
15.	April 27	Mohgaon	Forest fire awareness programme	48
16.	April 28	Almod	Forest fire awareness programme	41
17.	April 29	Khanchari	Forest fire awareness programme	52
18.	April 30	Jhirpa	Forest fire awareness programme	59

Our teams work across the landscape to provide water to birds during the scorching summer. In Satpura Tiger Reserve, Hameed Khan motivated villagers in Matkuli, Duddi and Almod to put up small containers with water for birds to quench their thirst. 120 containers were placed at suitable places in trees, roofs of houses and buildings. We also organised awareness programme on this issue at Jhirpa and Aaritodiya.

S.	Date	Village	Activity	par.
1	April 22	Matkuli	Awareness programme on need to provide water to birds	12
2	April 23	Duddi	--do--	14
3	April 24	Almod	--do--	10
4	April 29	Jhirpa	Awareness programme of putting up of pots for drinking water for birds	15
5	April 29	Aaritodiya	--do--	17



Matkuli - Villagers and Forest Department officer put containers with water for birds

Celebration of Earth Day

On April 21, we organized a programme to celebrate Earth Day at Matkuli. Water conservation was discussed at the meeting. Following the meeting, villagers voluntarily dug a trench to collect water leaking from an overhead tank. This make shift water tank now provides drinking water for domestic livestock, while, earlier, the water was being wasted. The programme was attended by Mr. Praveen Yadav (Principal, Government Higher Secondary School, Matkuli), Bubulal Dahiya, Smt. Laxmi Yadav (Sarpanch - Pisuwa and Mr. Kamal Kishor Pal (Sarpanch - Matkuli), and around 50 villagers from Matkuli.



Matkuli - Celebration on Earth day

Employment Cell - Placement

5 youths from relocated and buffer villages got jobs in April thanks to our assistance.

Details of the placements are as follows:

S. n	Village	Name	Salary (in rupees, monthly)	Qual.	Age	Job
1	Matkuli	Dharmendra Kahar	14,000/-	10 th std	26	Security Guard, Pipe Factory Indore
2	Pisuwa	Laxman	7,500/- + accommodation	10 th std	27	Labourer, Pipe Factory Indore
3	Pisuwa	Dhirru Dhurve	--do--	8 th std	24	--do--
4	Pisuwa	Rajesh Dhurve	--do--	8 th std	25	--do--
5	Pisuwa	Ramkumar	--do--	10 th std	27	--do--

Mobile Health Service (MHS)

Satpuda Foundation organizes medical camps at which villagers get free treatment and medicines. These camps, whose schedule is set in conjunction with the management of the Tiger Reserve, are run by the Mobile Health Service (MHS) of Satpuda Foundation.

There were health camps in 6 villages in April.

S.N.	Date	Village	Patients
1	April 14	Tekapar	31
2	April 14	Chillod	18
3	April 15	Mohgaon	43
4	April 15	Khari	12
5	April 16	Pisuwa	25
6	April 16	Chandanpipariya	13
Total			142



Dr. V.K. Zanjil treats villagers at Chandanpipariya (left) and Pisuwa (right)

Ujwalla Gas Yojna

During the month we organized 8 programmes to select candidates for Ujwalla Gas Yojna at Matkuli, Mehandikheda, Pisuwa, Bindakheda, Chandanpipariya, Maili, Tekapar and Chirrai. This programme was supported by Food Inspector, Pipariya.



Matkuli- Selection of candidates for Ujwalla Yojna

Proposed relocation

Our team organized meetings of the residents of Duddi, Bandhan, Ghana, Chakar, Almod and Barud villages to discuss relocation-related issues. Ashfaq was asked to organize these meetings by Shri B.P Srivastav (Range Officer, Denwa buffer), M.L. Wadiwa (Deputy Ranger) and Forest Guard, Satpura Tiger Reserve.



Relocation meeting with Forest Department at Duddi (Left) and Ghana (Right)

Relocated villages

Ashfaq and Hameed Khan visited the relocated villages of Birjikhapa, Dhargaon, Nankot, Mongra, Parraspani, Anjandhana, Jamandhonga, Raikheda and Nayakheda during April to follow up on the status of the relocated villagers.

Satpura Tiger Reserve and Zilla Panchayat administration have asked Satpuda Foundation to focus on youths from relocated villages in our livelihood activities. STR management will approach the concerned government agencies to implement livelihood training programmes under the National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM).