

KANHA
MARCH 2019

Team: Amit Awasthi – *Conservation Officer*
Sampathlal Dhurve – *Field assistant*

Highlights

- ⇒ *Assisted in preparing micro-plans for 9 villages*
- ⇒ *Helped 32 villagers apply for LPG connection under Ujjwala Yojna*
- ⇒ *Assisted 20 farmers in applying for solar-powered pumps*
- ⇒ *Organised 3 shramdhaans for community assistance – cleaning of area around hand pumps and making soak pit*
- ⇒ *3 person trained in preparing vermi-compost*
- ⇒ *3compost pits prepared*
- ⇒ *6 awareness programmes on vermi-compost , forest fires and gas connections*
- ⇒ *Environment education programme conducted in 8 schools - attended by 218 students*
- ⇒ *2 unemployed youths placed in resorts*

Conservation work

Date	Village	Activity	No. of participants
March	Kutwahi, Khisi, Samaiya-Bhagpur, Batwar, Sautiya, Manegaon, Botal –Behra, Patpara, Dhamangaon	Support in preparing micro plans for eco-development committees	
March	Samaiya-Bhagpur, Batwar, Sautiya, Manegaon, Botal –Behra, Patpara, Dhamangaon	32 villagers applied for LPG connection under Ujjwala Yojana	
March	Dhamangaon, Manegaon	Assisted Baiga families in applying for solar-powered pumps	
March 10	Sautiya	Shramdhaan programme to clear area next to hand pump and make a soak pit	6
March 16	Batwar	-----do-----	7
March 23	Chapri	-----do-----	8
March 14	Khisi	Shyam Lal Yadav trained in preparing vermi-compost	4
March 17	Batwar	Dashodibai Pusham trained in preparing vermi-compost	6

March 18	Patpara	Sonsingh Maravi trained in preparing vermi-compost	5
March 5	Kutwahi	Santobai Maravi trained in preparing vermi-compost	
March 7	Manegaon	Dug compost pit at Gyani Singh Markam's residence	
March 9	Bhagpur	Dug compost pit at Bharat Lal Uddey's residence	
March 2	Batwar	Awareness programmes on forest fires, vermi-compost, compost and gas connections	14
March 5	Patpara	-----do-----	28
March 13	Khisi	-----do-----	24
March 15	Samaiya	-----do-----	31
March 19	Manegaon	-----do-----	36
March 22	Sautiya	-----do-----	29

Satpuda Foundation is helping the office of the Range Forest Officer, Khatiya and the Green Brigade Foundation Balaghat in preparing 5-year village micro-plans for 9 buffer zone villages. We are conducting meetings with villagers to enquire about their needs and to know about local issues related to conservation. We are suggesting solutions through these plans as per the needs of the villagers. We have completed micro-plans for Kutwahi and Khisi and are working on the remaining plans.



*Kutwahi - Amit Awasthi conducts P.R.A. work and meeting with villagers (left)
Micro-plan of Kutwahi (right)*

During the month, we assisted 32 villagers in submitting applications for LPG connections under the Government's Ujjwala Yojana Scheme. We helped the villagers in filling up forms and in the required documentation. Use of cooking gas

will reduce villagers' dependence on forests for firewood. Villagers' going into the forest for firewood is one of the sources of human-wildlife conflict.



Patpara - Amit Awasthi with Forest Guard Mocha S R Maravi assists villagers in applying for cooking gas connections

During the month, Satpuda Foundation helped 12 families from Dhamangaon and 8 families from Manegaon in applying to the Government for supply of subsidised 2 HP solar-powered pumps. Our team helped the villagers in filling up the forms and in collecting and submitting the required documents. 4 villagers have already been supplied with the pumps and the rest are expected to get them soon. The pumps are supplied by the M P Energy Development Corporation Ltd.

This initiative will help the villagers to concentrate on farming throughout the year and reduce their dependence on forests for livelihood during the non-monsoon months.

List of villagers who have received solar-powered pumps

SR	Village	Name of villagers
1	Dhamangaon	Fagu Lal Maravi Baiga
2	Dhamangaon	Tito Bai Maravi Baiga
3	Dhamangaon	Ramratan Markam Baiga
4	Dhamangaon	Barto Bai Maravi Baiga



Dhamangaon- Subsidized solar-powered pump set up with our help at Tito Bai Maravi Baiga's house

On March 10, Sampath led a team of 6 people in a programme to clear wild growth around a hand pump and prepare a soak pit at Sautiya. Wild growth had proliferated around the hand pump and access to the hand pump was affected. Our team, which

comprised 6 youths from the village, removed the wild growth and cleaned the area and prepared a soak pit which will take spill over water from the pump and help recharge the water table.

2 similar programmes were organised on March 16 at Batwar and March 23 at Chapri.



Chapri- Site around hand pump before (left) and after our programme (right)

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 3 villagers dig compost pits – Banshi Lal Uikey of Kutwahi on March 5, Shyam Bai Walke of Manegaon on March 7, and Chetram Walke of Bhagpur on March 9.



Bhagpur- compost pit dug with our assistance at Chetram Walke's house

On March 14, our team provided training in preparing vermi-compost to Shyam Lal Yadav of Khisi village. During the training, he was taught how to maintain the vermi-compost tank, prepare the compost and use it properly.

2 similar programmes were organised on March 17 for Dashodi Bai Pusham of Batwar and for Son Singh Maravi of Patpara on March 18.



Khisi - Shyam Lal Yadav trained in preparing vermi-compost

We held 6 programmes during March to promote awareness about conservation activities in villages. Details are given in the above table.



Dhamangaon - Amit Awasthi, with Forest Guard of Samaiya S.K.Patel, conducts awareness programme in village

Education

During the month our team organized environment education programmes in 8 schools in the villages in our area of operations.

S. no	Date	School	Village	Number of participants
1	March 1	Government Primary School (GPS)	Manegaon	32
2	March 4	GPS	Sautiya	19
3	March 6	Government Middle School (GMS)	Batwar	24
4	March 7	GMS	Patpara	33
5	March 9	Education guarantee scheme school (EGS)	Bhagpur	16
6	March 11	GMS	Dhamangaon	36
7	March 12	GPS	Batwar	22

8	March 27	GPS	Kutwahi	36
			Total	218



Manegaon - Students listen to Sampath's lecture on conservation

Employment Cell

We helped 2 youths get jobs during the month of March

S. No.	Date	Village	Name	Monthly Salary in rupees	Education	Age	Job
1.	March 10	Batwar	Ashok Dhurwey	4500/- + meals	8 th standard	22	Waiter at Bagh Haweli Resort, Mocha
2	March 13	Kutwahi	Rameshwar Maravi	14,000/- + meals	9 th standard	25	Cook at Sterling Resort, Mocha



Rameshwar Maravi (of Chapri) who got a job as waiter with our help at Sterling Resort Mocha

Livelihood programmes

As part of our programme to reduce pressure on forests, we have been encouraging villagers to take up alternative livelihood options. In Kanha, we have been

encouraging villagers to take up vegetable farming as there are several resorts around Mocha and there is a steady flow of tourists who require fresh vegetables. Over the past 5 years, we have assisted around 30 villagers in taking up vegetable farming and they are earning around 500-1,000 rupees a week in additional income. The vegetable patches are typically of small size and located in the backyards of the residences. Some villagers have now got enough confidence to expand and are planning to use part of their farm land for this activity.



Kutwahi – Pahar Singh Barkade tends to her vegetable patch set up with our help