

World Environment Day 2008 and other education reports from our SANIZE members

Activity Report

Name of the Programme: Animal Welfare Fortnight-2008. Date: June 18, 2008. Material used: Monkey Manners Packet. Duration of the programme: 60 Minutes. Venue: Regional Museum of Natural History, Bhopal. Target Groups: 50 Students (Class 5-7).



Resource Person: Shri Manik Lai Gupta, Educational Assistant, Regional Museum of Natural History, Bhopal.

Brief of the programme : Shri Manik Lai Gupta, Educational Assistant of the museum began the programme by asking the students, whether they ever offered food material to monkeys? or they ever teased monkeys? A few students honestly answered yes for these two questions! Shri Gupta pointed out that our development has made increasingly more forests inadequate to support wildlife. Therefore monkeys are also migrating into cities, towns and villages. As it is noticed, monkeys find it easier to raid crops and eat garbage around homes and other human habitations than to forage in a shrinking forest.



Shri Gupta further told that places like temples and tourism sites encourage the feeding of monkeys for sake of pilgrims obtaining blessing and

entertaining tourists. He explained how these monkey groups thrive on the easily accessible, rich food. When their numbers increased, there were increasing problems! Therefore we should know the 'Monkey Manners'.

Consolidating his speech Shri Gupta explained 'Monkey Manners' and requested not to feed monkeys and leave food for monkeys. He informed not to keep organic waste or garbage in open. While talking about stop teasing, he said not to smile or show the teeth to monkeys! Also he advised not to try to scare them away. He shared the information on behaviour of monkeys and said one may move slowly facing them,



not looking directly in the eyes! Besides he told not to act as afraid, that is interpreted as weakness. He requested student to respect their territory and not to go close to them. He continued to say to not to run up to them or run from them. Shri Gupta further told when we get close to the monkeys, disease can be passed from people to monkeys also from monkeys to people, that is very bad for both. Mr. Gupta suggested to students about better use of resource material kept in packet arranged by Zoo Outreach Organisation, Coimbatore. **Dr. S. Sethuramalingam, Scientist-in-Charge, Scientist 'D' And Head of Office, RMNH, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh. Email: rmnhsethu@sancharnet.in**

Report on World Environment Day

G.R.Damodharan School observed the World Environment Day on 5 June and provided awareness to young students. Amphibian conservation was the mark of the day. The instruction material provided by you on this aspect was very helpful for our children. We look forward for more materials from your organisation.

Students enthusiastically participated in the programme. As 2008 is observed as the year of amphibians, stress on mass extinction of amphibians due to habitat loss, climate change, pollution, pesticides, over collection for food and pets was emphasized. Amphibian loss also due to fungal sickness called Amphibian Chytrid was motioned. The audience was made aware of the importance of amphibian conservation. As an

initiative stickers on Amphibian Ark were distributed to eco-club members. Speech on protecting our environment from deforestation, global warming and their hazards such as soil erosion, land slides, increase in temperature made the audience aware of the threat we are facing. A Tamil song along with the dramatization of animal characters kindled the problems of wildlife in the direction of extinction. A skit depicted the life of urban versus rural people. The usage of non-biodegradable products by the urban people caused great risks where as usage of biodegradable products by the rural people made life easier.

At the end of the session children took oath to plant trees at home and school. To use wrapper-less chocolates during the birthday celebrations, to keep environment clean and also to protect the endangered animals. *Ms. D. Prabha, G.R.Damodharan Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Coimbatore-641 014, Tamil Nadu*

Report on WILDLIFE CONSERVATION CAMPAIGNING on the occasion of World Environment Day 2008

The wildlife conservation campaign was done on the occasion of World Environment Day 2008 by Nature's Foster, a prime conservation group of Assam in two local schools of Bongaigaon District with the educational materials supported by Zoo Outreach Organisation. The objective of the



campaign was to promote the need of wildlife conservation among the student community. The educational kits of amphibians, tiger and primates provided by ZOO and various posters, stickers of Nature's foster were used during the programme. Both the programmes were carried out by me and our student members of Nature's foster. We hadn't received any fund for the programme except few consumable wages from Nature's foster head office. The programme details were discussed below.

First Campaign: Theme: Amphibian matters.
Date: 22 May 2008, Thursday. Venue: Jyanoday Jatiya Vidyalaya. Theme: Amphibian conservation
Participants: 40.

A day long wildlife conservation campaign was done in the Jyanoday Jatiya Vidyalaya, a primer regional language school of Bongaigaon district. The programme was attended by the students of Class VIII. There were about 33 students along with, 5 members of Nature's Foster and 2 students from local colleges. The theme of the campaign was Amphibian matters. We had started the programme with a brief talk on the need of wildlife by the Principal Mr. A.K.Das lead by a talk on the animal



kingdom by Subhodeep Mukharjee. After that Rakesh Soud had given an interesting slide show on the Amphibians of the region with various educational packets provided by ZOO on Amphibians. Students had also took part in an open discussion and put forwarded their views on wildlife problems. After that there was a quiz session where the participants got various prizes such as T-Shirt, poster, stickers etc. Various environmental games were one of the most interesting session of the programme.

Second Campaign: Theme: Large mammal conservation. Date: 5 June 2008, Thursday. Venue: Holy Child English Medium School. Participants: 78

Another day long wildlife conservation campaign was done on Large mammals in the Holy Child English Medium School, a reputed English medium school of Bongaigaon district. The programme was attended by the students of Class IX. There were about 71 students along with, 4 members of Nature's Foster and 3 school teachers. As the theme of the campaign was on large mammals, we had started the programme with a brief talk on the large mammals with special reference to Hoolock Gibbon and Tigers. The programme was also attended by the Principal. Rakesh Soud had given an interesting lecture on the Hoolock Gibbon and Tigers with various educational packets provided by ZOO on Hoolock Gibbon and Tigers. Students had also took part on a open discussion and put forwarded their views on wildlife problems. After that there was a quiz session where the

participants get various prizes such as poster, stickers etc. Various environmental games were one of the most interesting sessions of the programme.

Acknowledgement: We are grateful to the ZOO authorities along with the members of Nature's Foster. My heartiest thanks goes to the Head of both the schools and Mr. S.N. Sen, Mr. Lakhan Nath from Nature's Foster office for his active involvement and Mr. N.K. Dey for his continuous encouragement in such activities.

Report prepared by: Rakesh Soud, Nature's Foster, Dolaigaon, Bongaigaon District-783 380, Assam. Ph. +91-94351 22269
E-mail: assam_rhino@rediffmail.com

Celebration of World Environmental Day 2008 at Bahinabai Choudhary Pranisangrahalaya, Chinchwad, Pune

World Environmental Day 2008 was celebrated at Bahinabai Choudhary Pranisangrahalaya with the theme 'Frog Rocks'. The programme was designed and organized for the socially backward students. Nearly 50 students were involved from 'Punaruthannam Samarasata Gurukulam', Chinchwad and 'Dnyanprabhodhini Kridakul',

Chikhali. The first school works for the education in poor strata of the society, while later renders an opportunity to rural students for complete development.



Both the schools are run for the socially underprivileged children. The park initiative was to mainstream these children into environmentally sensitive issues.

The topic selected for environment day celebration was in accordance to International Amphibian Year. Education packets provided by Zoo Outreach Organization on 'Frog Rocks' was the central theme. Local Corporator Mrs Mangala Kadam and Mr. Suresh Salunkhe, Garden Superintendent, PCMC inaugurated the programme. Mrs. Chhaya Bhanage, Deputy Collector was the Guest of Honour. Mr. Anil Khaire, Zoo Director

welcomed all before elucidating the programme. A small skit on 'Frogs: Our Friends' was performed by students of



Dnyanprabhodhini Kridakul. Mr. Dipak Sawant, a Local Environment Educator, gave a presentation on Life history of Frogs and their importance in Nature. Dr. Mayuri Panse a well-known Wildlife Filmmaker enlightened the threats to amphibians and need for their conservation. She conducted various interactive games and activities to involve children in programme. A small documentary on 'Life Cycle of Frogs' produced by her was shown to students.

Mr. Surendra Shelke, Mr. Tejas Khaire and all zoo staff worked as volunteers for the programme. The



programme was concluded with Children hopping and croaking around like Frogs. We are thankful to all the participants and our supporters for making this event successful. We are highly obliged to Zoo Outreach Organization for providing us the utmost quality of material spreading light on the amphibian world. **Compiled By: Dipak Sawant, Indian Herpetological Society, Pune, Maharashtra**

Amphibian Ark Programmes

I - Earth Day 2008: Theme- Amphibian Ark 2008 the Year of the Frog-YOTF. Target group: VBS students - STD VIII, IX, X at the Summer Camp. No. of Students-20. No. of Books distributed - 20 + 2. Days: 29.4.08 & 30.4.08. Venue - CSI Christ Church, Virugambakkam, Chennai.

2008..the Year Of The Frog was introduced for the first time to 20 students studying in STD VIII, IX & X at the CSI Christ Church, Virugambakkam, Chennai on 29th & 30th April during the Vacation Bible School. As all the educational institutions are closed for summer holidays, these selective 20 students participated with much enthusiasm. According to the instructions, all the methods were followed step by step during the first day. All the participants shared the matter with their family members and friends on the first day and then to the entire group of 500 students on the second day. They took an oath on the road side, where the onlookers came to know more about the frog. Instructions were given to share about the Amphibian Ark to their friends in the school during the month of June 2008 after the school reopens.

Oath: I , do show concern towards the Amphibian which is created by God like me. Hence I will share my experience of this program with my family members, friends and neighbours and make them to take care of the amphibians.

Name List - Std VIII: Betsy Vinita. J, Ida Bennis. A. J, Guana Bety. J. J, Nanacy Susana. M. , Marcelina Sherine. J, Rachel Thoma, Sharmila. V, Nanacy. K.



2953

Std IX & X: Jacob. T, Samuelraj . R, Johnson. S, Albert Samuel, Prabhudas. S, Richardson, Godwin Samuel Anand. A, Saravanan. R, Ravichandran. S, Rajendaran Balu. T

II. Biodiversity Day 2008: Theme - Amphibian Ark 2008.. Year Of The Frog. Days-19 to 22 May 2008. Venue - Presidency College, Chennai. In collaboration with the Dioconal Ministry (a social concern department) of the Church of South India participated in the Biodiversity Mela & Exhibition at Chennai. Created awareness to the students of schools and besides the general public from 19 to 22 May 2008 at the Presidency College, Chennai. The four days of sharing enlightened the minds of the visitors. With limited educational packets awareness was created and the need to protect the frog was a new concept to most of the participants. The slogans and the stickers seemed to a new thing to most of the visitors to the show. The interaction with the vendors was very much interesting. Enclosure: Report given by D.M., Chennai. 1. Program Sheet, 2. Attendance Sheet, 3. Paper cutting - Deccan Chronicle, May 23, 2008. 4. Photographs. No. of Educational packets distributed - 10

III. World Environment Day - June 5, 2008
Theme: 2008.. Year Of The Frog. Day- 5 June 2008. Venue: CSI Centre, Royapettah, Chennai. A special order of worship was followed on 5 June 2008 at 9.30 am in order to create awareness and initiate the entire team of the staff to care for all the



creation. In order to initiate the program on this special day a separate time was allotted to share about the 2008.. the Year Of The Frog. This will be decentralized in Andhra Pradesh, Karanataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu, a detailed program with minimum of educational packets was conducted. One year activities were planned.

IV - World Environment Day 2008
Theme-2008.. Year Of The Frog, Day- 9.6.08. Venue - Balamandiram H. S. School, Madurai. No. of Students -60. The days program was introduced by the Headmaster after the welcome address. 60 students of Std IX were eagerly participated. The Teacher in charge of the National Green corps coordinated the program. The packets were given to the selected students. Starting from the tying up the Rakhi, each division of the program was learnt by the students and shared to the entire class. They have decided 1.to allot a corner for frogs;2.to share the news to others at least 10



members;3.to handover the signature format to D.F.O;4.month wise activities were also planned. The days program was published in Dhinamalar (Tamil Edition) on 15th June 2008. Enclosure; Signature Format, photographs.

V. World Environment Day - Report
2008 Year Of The Frog-26 June 2008
As the year 2008, is declared as the Year Of The Frog, one day awareness program was conducted to the N.G.C students along with other students on 26 June 2008 at R.M.K. Sardha Vidhalaya G.H.S.S TNagar, Chennai.

After the opening prayer, Mrs. Namagiri, the H.M welcomed the gathering. Mr. Deivasigamani the Deputy Director, Directorate of Environment, Chennai gave the keynote address on Climate Change. Mrs. Jessie Jeyakaran, member, International Zoo Educator Association, South Asia Network gave the introductory talk on Amphibian Rock, and shared the role of frog in the ecosystem besides the reason why that day's program was organized. The Educational packets FROG'S ROCK were distributed to the 25 N.G.C students.

The 6 activity sessions like, tying of Rakhi, Frogs matter, role play, game and drawing competitions were conducted in group. A cultural program with frogs race and dance were performed. Students were divided into groups for each activity session. They have taken the oath and assured that they will care and show concern towards the frog. Decided to spread the matter among their friends and family members. Winners of the drawing Competition: I. K. Nithya IX B. II.T.Pavithra IX A. III.M. Vijayalakshmi IX A. On the Spot test: M. Vijayalakshmi IX A. The days program came to an end with future plans. Mrs. Kannaki Prabakaran N.G.C coordinator proposed the vote of thanks. The organizer, the coordinator along with few students went to the nearby schools and shared the matter with them. This revealed the knowledge gained during the day's program. All the three schools will be doing the years follow up work on Amphibian Aark. **Mrs. Jessie Jayakaran, AVM Avenue, Virugmbakkam, Chennai-600 092, Tamil Nadu.**
Email: jessiejey@rediffmail.com

**Environmental Day Program 2008
 Elephant Orphanage, Pinnawala, Department of
 National Zoological Gardens, Sri Lanka.
 "Save Elephants – Save Nature" June 05, 2008**

Introduction: Elephant Orphanage Pinnawala Celebrated the Environmental Day 2008 in collaboration with the National Zoo Sri Lanka to widen the knowledge among school children and the public on environmental problems and the conservation of the nature. Elephant Orphanage takes an opportunity in every year Environmental day (June 05) to build up environmental awareness among the children and public. This year program was mainly focused on the current environmental hazardous and the future conservation aspects. Target group of the program was school students because build up environmental lovers to the world. Competition (Questioners program) was held among the students from different schools about the environment.

Participants: 150 school students from grade 9, 10 & 11 in 6 schools of around the Elephant Orphanage, teachers and staff of the elephant orphanage

Observation Elephant Feeding: (9.00 am 9.30 am): Participants observed the orphan baby elephants milk-feeding from bottles

Inauguration: (9.30 am – 10.00 am): Welcome speech was done by Mr.Prageeth Madurawansha, Education and Research Assistant, Elephant Orphanage, Pinnawala and he coordinated the events of the Environmental day program well. Mr. Seelarathna, Senior Curator of the Elephant Orphanage made a speech introducing the elephant orphanage and the Environmental day program 2008, conducted by the Education and Research Unit Elephant Orphanage. School students and the others were aware on the theme

of the Environmental day-2008 "Kick the habit and de-carbonize their economies and life style" by Chaminda Dissanayake, Vet surgeon of the EOP. He discussed the current environmental problems in Sri Lanka and the world also.

Tree Plantation: (10.00 am – 10.30 am): Mr. Manjula Jayawardhana, Education and Research Assistant: organized tree planting activity to the students and others, discussed the value to the environment from planting trees also. Very rare and valuable 10 saplings were planted in the Orphanage Park. Students too brought saplings to the orphanage as Environmental day gifts.

Introduce Role of Elephant Orphanage: (10.30 am – 11.00 am) Mrs. Kumari Basnayake, Education and Research Assistant, made a lecture to the audience about the role of the elephant orphanage and how it participates to the conservation of Asian elephants as an *ex-situ* conservation centre.

Tea and sort-eats were served to the audience while the lecture was carrying out.

Environmental Questions (Competition) (11.00 am – 1.00 pm): This event was processed with three question rounds by Miss Lanka Kumari Dharmadasa, Education & Research Assistant, four students from each school participated to the competition and all 24 students participated. Students had to face oral questions at the First round and questions consists regarding simple lifestyle, conservation role of elephant orphanage, special plants and animals to the Sri Lanka, current environmental problems in Sri Lanka, Plant and animal adaptation to the environment. Students had to answer the questions ask with the picture shown at the screen in the second round of questions. Those questions were asked about the environmental pollution, global warming, ozone depletion, natural hazardous, animal adaptations, and environmental conservations. At the third round of questions students had to made a speech on a given topics for 30 seconds. All the topics given are related to the environment and participants were able to ask 24 speeches on different environmental related topics such as bio-diversity, conservation, environmental pollution, garbage management, and so on. Three members were consists in the Marking board of the competition, they are Dr. Chaminda Disanayake., Mrs. Chandrika Pryadarshani, Education & Research Assistant, and Mr. Prageeth Madurawansha, Education & Research Assistant.

Participants Speech (1.00 pm – 1.15 pm) One of the School teachers made a speech regarding the Environmental day program and he expressed the important of this kind of environmental awareness program for the students as future generation of the country. Then one of the students too made a speech expressing the gained environmental

knowledge and the important of participation to the program.

Price giving occasion (1.15 pm – 1.45 pm): Every participant was gifted with the magazine "Zoological Garden" issued by the National Zoological Gardens, Sri Lanka. All winners and participants of the competition were gifted with special prizes and awarded certificates too.

Submitted by: Ms. Lanka Kumari Dharmadasa, Education and Research Assistant, Elephant Orphanage, Pinnawala, Sri Lanka.
Email: kumarilanka@yahoo.co.uk

World Environment Day 2008-A report of the programme

Conservation Himalayas celebrated the World Environment Day 2008 on 5 June in Chunakhan Ecotourism Centre at Belparao in Ramnagar Tehsil of Nainital District of Uttarakhand, India. Dr.

Santosh Kumar Sahoo, Chairman, Conservation Himalayas and Ms. Aruna Kumari Negi, President, Conservation Himalayas organised, coordinated and conducted the WED programmes on 5th June 2008. The participants in this WED programme at the Chunakhan Ecotourism



Centre included 50 students, 6 teachers, 13 women social workers from Chunakhan, and 5 staff members of the Terai West Forest Division, Ramnagar. Mr. Manoj Pant, Range Officer, Belparao Forest Range, Terai West Forest Division, Uttarakhand was the chief guest for this programme.

The programme began with an introductory remark by Mr. Manoj Pant about the importance of people's participation to preserve and protect the natural resources from the degradation and exploitation. Dr. Sahoo and Ms. Aruna Negi then conducted special WED-2008 programme with a short introduction by Dr. Sahoo on the issues of environmental degradation and natural resource depletion. The introductory part was proactively managed with an interactive session with the students on issues of THREATS TO THE LOCAL WILDLIFE AND WILDLIFE WELFARE. Students enthusiastically participated in the question-answer session. Ms. Aruna Negi showed through a demonstration how thousands of frogs lose their lives in our immediate environment because of human ignorance and negligence.

In another demonstration activity, Ms. Aruna Negi conducted a simple game activity on Habitat Loss

and Human-Wildlife Conflict through a role play model played by the student participants. In this activity, the students were explained about how the gradual loss of natural resources brings changes in our environment, how climate change and global warming affect every form of life everywhere on the planet Earth, and how all types of wild animals suffer due to loss of natural food resources and natural home and due to ever increasing human activities in the forest areas. This game activity session ended with a group pledge session in which all the participants took pledge to remain alert about the growing environment issues and do something best practically to save frogs and other daily life wildlife and also to keep the environment clean. At the end of this session, all the participants were given ZOO educational materials to learn and teach others about the welfare of the wildlife.

The last session of the WED-2008 programme was the CLEAN PLASTIC GARBAGE activity in which 18 young students participated to go around the Chunakhan Ecotourism Centre and clean the area by collecting all the plastic garbage. Dr. Sahoo first taught the participants about how plastic garbage is dangerous for the environment and for the wild animals. Students took keen interest to go around and clean the forest land adjoining Chunakhan Ecotourism Centre. The students covered nearly an area of 1 sq. km in the CLEAN PLASTIC GARBAGE operation and collected all the plastic garbage. Finally the collected plastic garbage weighing about



20kg was burnt in a ditch. Through this activity our attempt was to inculcate the spirit of Love for the Natural Environment and Wildlife in the mind in the young students.

Conservation Himalayas is thankful to the ZOO outreach organisation for sending ZOO educational kits which we could give to the participants of the WED-2008 programme at Chunakhan on 5th June 2008.

We are thankful to the DFO, Terai West Forest Division (TWFD) and the Range Officer of the Belparao Range of the TWFD for providing us all possible facilities at Chunakhan to conduct the WED-2008 programme. **Dr. Santosh Kumar Sahoo, Chairman, Conservation Himalayas, 977, Sector**

41-A, Chandigarh 160 03. Tel.: 09876820516,
Email: chimalayas@yahoo.com

World Environment Day 2008

The World Environment Day 2008 was celebrated on 05-06-2008 in Calicut in the Regional Science Centre & Planetarium.

Due to ruling party Bandh there was a change in the earlier programme scheduled for the day by the "Conservation of Nature Society". Rioting in the area forced to. However the programme on the basis of "kick the Habit towards a low carbon Economy" as per the ZOO schedule was held in the Regional Science Centre in doors. The press release on the subject was circulated among all. Various opinions came up during the programme. Teachers opinioned on the destruction of the forests due to climate change and some students opinioned about the decrease in the migratory birds in various areas due to climate change and reduction of sea turtles coming to lay eggs in various beaches. The climate change results in flooding ie sea level rise to 3 mts and India's metro cities may be under water said some.

Some students opioned about the 88 heavily threatened birds species in India. Many opinioned without community conservation the protection of forests may not be effective; as major villages near the forests depends on the forests alone as per the Forest Survey of India.

The participants came up in the common platform about the huge number of shade trees felled due to unplanned development which also contribute the above issues. Now trees are seen felled in the name of sustainable urban planning also.

Reduction in vulture numbers were a subject discussed. Once found in huge numbers vultures are not found even in huge waste grounds today. Tree felling contributes came opinion.

Awareness programme was conducted and class conducted on the subject in the science centre. The secretary and Joint Secretary of the society took classes for the students. Painting competition with zoo materials was organised. ZOO packets were distributed to the students and small dramas arranged. The awareness programme on all the "State animals" were conducted.

Discussions came up on the matters like the Tiger our national Animal numbers came down to 1411 in Indian forests, the Kerala Forest Department saw only 45 numbers.

Heavy criticism came on the recent forest fire in the Periyar Tiger Reserve the sole Tiger Reserve in Kerala. The criticism was on the forest officials who had assured that already enough precautions were taken to prevent forest fires in protected areas.

The poor conditions of the Trichur Zoo also were discussed in the afternoon session.

The incident reported by the NDTV of the Dolphin being beaten to death in the banks in Lucknow came up for heavy criticism. Decision were taken to organise further programmes on Ocean Day on Dolphins.

Being the year of the Amphibian huge areas of wet lands filled came up heavily under criticism. The threat to marine wildlife due to Sethusamudram Project also came up as an issue.

A decision also came up to conduct a group visit to the Parassinikadavu Snake Park (A mini zoo) where heavy casualties were seen years back due to unplanned act of forest officials and where the animals still show fear in their eyes.

Hope was raised on the declaration of the State Forest Ministry to start a lion safari in Thamarassery in Kozhikode District in Kerala as there are zoo safari as per the Central Zoo Authority specification in Malabar region.

The Conservation of Nature Society decided to render all possible help to the authorities for the safari. Banians were distributed to the members.



The recent decision by the Govt. to curtail the CRZ rules to coastal management rules and the effect on the marine life and mangroves were heavily criticised by the participants who opinioned on commercialisation of coasts were the aim.

An issue our society had warned come true. A Bulbul bird making nest in a plastic tree. A issue our society took up this WED also.

World Ocean Day

The society organised the World Ocean Day 2008 programme in the society's premises on 08 June 2008. The ZOO material was distributed as classess taken on the new proposed coastal management zone rules proposed.

The relaxation of coastal regulation rules will lead to the destruction of ocean and mangroves opinioned some while some participants said that this relaxation of coastal rules along with excess fishing will lead to threat to many sea animals.

Students of the National Institute of Technology (NIT) participated in the programme. The ZOO materials were distributed among them. The Dolphin Protection Committee under the Conservation of Nature Society distributed car stickers sponsored by them on Dolphin Foundation.

A small class was arranged on the tiger protection on the day for NIT students.

This was cancelled earlier due to Bandh on 05 June 2008. The attached press release was circulated.

The Joint Secretary of the society Vinod Kumar Damodar spoke on the occasion. **Mr. Vinod Kumar Damodar, Joint Secretary, Conservation of Nature Society, Calicut, Kerala. Email: mspca3@hotmailcom**

Green Mizoram Day

Samrakshan Trust's Mizoram Base has been working on building partnerships towards conservation. This is to generate synergies with locally accepted institutions towards garnering support for conservation action in the Saiha region.

Samrakshan personnel have actively participated in and shared their views with participants at events organized by Young Mizo Association (YMA), Mara Thyultia Py (MTP), Mara Students Organization (MSO) and Forest Staff Association (FSA).

On 18th June 2008 Samrakshan personnel participated in the plantation drive organized at Tuipang on account of the Green Mizoram Day.

The participants included about 200 students from 4 schools that Samrakshan works with on account of its Conservation Education and Awareness programme and 50 elders including members of institutions like Mara Chano Py (MCHP) participated in this day long event organized by the forest department. We share this wonderful experience through photographs. **Nimesh Ved, Samrakshan Trust, Mizoram. Email: Nimesh.ved@gmail.com**

