

2006 Education Reports with ZOO / SAN-IZE

'Saving the Tigers' - Awareness Programmes at Conservation Himalayas

Tiger education for the school children and community is one of the priority areas of conservation education activity of Conservation Himalayas, a Chandigarh-based nongovernmental organization (NGO) that has been actively working for the last four years in the field of conservation education in the northwestern Himalayan state of Uttaranchal. Uttaranchal is home to a wide variety of wild taxa including the big cat family of tiger, *Panthera tigris tigris*. Corbett National Park in Nainital district of Uttaranchal shelters as many as 350 wild living tigers.

Conservation Himalayas took the education component as a priority area of tiger conservation endeavour, and to target students, forest guards, rangers and village community members to be a part of the Tiger Education Net in the tiger range areas of Nainital district of Uttaranchal state. Two types of programmes—Tiger Conservation Training Camp (TCTC) for school students and zoo care takers and Wild Action Orientation Programme (WAOP) for the villagers, forest guards and rangers - were initiated in Nainital district. The TCTC programme was organized in the High Altitude Zoo premises at Nainital and the WAOP programme was organized in the premises of the forest guest house at Paharpani in Nainital district.

TCTC Programme:

The TCTC activity for school students was organized in the premises of the High Altitude Zoo (HAZ) at Nainital with participation of 60 school students from three local public schools. Forest officials including Director of the Nainital Zoo, Chief Conservator of Forest, Nainital Division, D.F.O. Nainital, Deputy Director, HAZ, Nainital, participated in this programme along with the student participants. The programme was divided into two parts. In the first part, the thrust was on *Learn Tiger & Save Tiger* and the students and forest officials were appased of the problems faced by the tiger subspecies through presentation entitled *Tiger Facts* with participants sharing their views and concerns. The second part was a workshop session in which the students were divided into five tiger groups, namely Indo-Chinese Tiger, Bengal Tiger, South-China Tiger, Sumatran Tiger, and Siberian Tiger, with ten students in each group. Paper Tiger Maps on three categories - Major Habitats of Asia, Current Tiger Ranges, and Historic Tiger Ranges - to understand tiger history.

The third part of this TCTC programme was a tiger appraisal activity inside the zoo where the students were taken to a Siberian Tiger enclosure at the zoo. The veterinary doctor introduced the students to this tiger species and briefed the students about the conservation status of the five remaining tiger subspecies both in the zoo and natural conditions. Students were given Tiger Kits received from ZOO.

WAOP Programme: This programme was community oriented with an objective to motivate the grass root level community members about how their role is vital in saving the local wildlife, and how their direct participation in the

community conservation programme helps sustain the wildlife. In a specially arranged programme at Paharpani, the villagers were given detail information about the current problems faced by the tigers in different tiger reserves including the Corbett National Park in Nainital district of Uttaranchal state.

From Awareness to Action: This community programme was well appreciated by the forest department authorities of Uttaranchal. Later a Village Wild Action Group was formed with active enrolment of 15 women and 10 men who pledged to work in coordination with the local government and with Conservation Himalayas for the protection of wildlife. The primary role of this action group will be to collect any type of information relating to wildlife poaching, wildlife trade and illegal tree cutting, and inform the concerned forest and wildlife wing so that such activities can be curtailed with immediate effect. Conservation Himalayas also continues to remain in constant touch with the leaders of this action group for field appraisal, wild communication networking, and feedback.

Programme 2

Tiger Conservation Education Programme at Deer Park Almora, Uttaranchal

At deer park, Almora, one 'Saving the Tigers Awareness workshop was organized on 6th September 2006 for the forest guards, students and school teachers. The theme for this workshop was 'save tiger and say no to tiger body parts'. More than 100 students, 5 teachers, 4 forest guards, and 2 foresters participated in this half-day programme of 3 sessions: i) Learning Tiger Facts; ii) Tiger Mask Making; and iii) 'save tiger and say no-to-tiger body parts pledge. The 'Teachers for Tigers Educators Tool Kit' was used as the resource material for the lesson study activity in which the students were given information about different types of tiger subspecies, types of tiger subspecies already extinct and currently living in natural habitat, historic and current tiger range, threats, conservation and Project Tiger. Students played interactive games as part of active learning for these lessons.

The second session on 'Tiger mask making was conducted by S. K. Sahoo who taught participants how to make tiger masks, and Aruna Kumari Negi assisting. Five students wearing tiger masks represented five living subspecies of tigers in their natural habitat

At the end of the programme participants pledged together not to use any products made from tiger body parts. They also pledged to teach their friends, relatives and neighbours about tiger facts and ask them not to use any tiger body part products. At the end of the programme, Tiger Pledge certificates of ZOO organization were distributed to the participating students. **Submitted By Dr. Santosh Kumar Sahoo, Conservation Himalayas, email: chimalayas@yahoo.com / arunameeru@hotmail.com**

Zoo History, Zoo Behaviour & Understanding Snakes with ZOOWATCH

The organization ZOOWATCH was founded in 1993 with the sole aim of improving living conditions for the captive

wildlife in Trivandrum Zoo. Part of our activities also involves conducting workshops and public education programmes for specific audiences that concentrate on important but neglected environmental themes. On October 30, 2006, ZOOWATCH members Mr. Palalayam Babu, Mr. Praveen Muralee and Dr. Latha Tampi organized a one day workshop at the Trivandrum Zoo. The Zoo Director and his staff kindly provided the Museum Auditorium at Trivandrum Zoo and ensured basic facilities. The two topics covered in the workshop were 1. An Introduction to Zoo history and Zoo behaviour and 2. Understanding Snakes.

Participants were school teachers, nature club members and community leaders who will transmit the facts we give them to their students, friends and colleagues. The programme was scheduled on the regular zoo holiday on Monday so that participants could study snakes and view feeding procedures without distractions. Mr. Praveen Muralee inaugurated the programme and said that school teachers and community leaders are in the best possible position to make good use of the information that we provide. Afterwards, Dr. Tampi introduced the topic of the history of zoos (from menageries to conservation and resource centres) and the manner in which their focus and functions have changed over the centuries. After this there was a discussion of the correct mode of behaviour in zoos and how teachers can teach respect for wildlife and nature in general.

Mr. Palalayam Babu and Mr. Praveen Muralee introduced participants to the "Wonderful World of Snakes." Many fascinating facts about snakes were revealed, all questions were answered and common misconceptions and superstitions were debunked. After lunch the delegates were escorted to the reptile enclosure where they were permitted to observe and study how a king cobra feeds followed by a talk by the Zoo Superintendent. Mr. Abu explained various factors involved in planning and construction of the new Reptile Enclosure at the Trivandrum Zoo, soon to be officially inaugurated.

The workshop closed with a brief summary by Mr. Muralee and Mr. Babu who stressed the most important fact, namely that every participant should and must carry out similar events in their schools, clubs or communities.

Submitted by Dr. Latha Tampi, ZOOWATCH, contact email : lathatampi@yahoo.com

Wildlife Week Report from Kullu, Himachal Pradesh

We have seven wildlife sanctuaries in this division. The materials received from ZOO was distributed to Govt. schools during wildlife week celebration. It was very helpful in raising awareness amongst children.

We selected schools situated within the PAs or along boundaries for wildlife week – 2006 celebration. Children were taken for a trek in each sanctuary. They were given information about importance of forests, fauna and flora and use of plants in health care. At the end of trek they were made to submit a report in a specific format. Five prizes were given for best reports. The material received from Zoo Outreach Organisation was distributed in the beginning. A quiz competition was conducted and the winner received prizes each in senior and junior category.

Some photographs taken during these two events showing children wearing the masks and displaying educational material are enclosed. We will continue to seek similar help in future also. **Submitted by: Division Forest Officer Wildlife Division, Kullu, Himachal Pradesh**

Wildlife Week Report from Ahmedabad Zoo

We celebrated wild life week and allowed free entry for four thousand children as part of the Wildlife Week celebration. This year we also provided touch table of different materials to all children. This was appreciated and enjoyed by adults as well.

Snake show and drawing competitions were also organized along with the film show on wild life. Educational materials provided by Zoo Outreach Organisation were highly useful to all children. There is a great demand for these materials from the schools for their classroom education.

Local TV channels and press gave good coverage to all these activities. Thanks for supporting wild life week celebration and providing educational materials. **Submitted by: R.K. Sahu, Zoo Superintendent, President SAZARC, Kamla Nehru Zoological Garden, Ahmedabad, Gujarat**

Conservation of Nature Society, Kozhikode, Kerala celebrates Wildlife Week 2006

The conservation of Nature Society organized the wildlife week celebrations during the week October (2 to 8th 2006) for college students. The main theme was the threat faced by the wild life in the State. The recent death of three Leopards in the District of Wayanad (Kerala) was taken as an example. The Leopards caught by the forest & wild life wing of the State was dead. The students put up various suggestions in the case of similar incidents.

Also another issue on which awareness programme was done was the unwanted cuttings of huge number of shade trees in the state which has led to the destruction of the life of the wild birds/butterflies/beetles etc. The recent incident of the butterflies being caught in the district of Malappuram in the reserve forests for sale to countries like Japan can be cited as examples of another threat faced by our wild life. The posters received from the Zoo Outreach Organisation were distributed in the function. As we have received the posters of the SLOTH BEAR the threat faced by them was also discussed.

Awareness programme on the threat faced by the wild animals in the sea like the dolphins, whales, sharks, sea-turtles were conducted. **Submitted by: Vinod Kumar Damodar, Joint Secretary, Executive Committee, Conservation of Nature Society, Kozhikode, Kerala.**

Wildlife Week Celebration 2006 Report from Madurai, Tamil Nadu

The first week of October in each year is celebrated as wild-life week concentrating on the preservation and the protection of wildlife. This year Mrs. Jessie Jeyakaran, member of IUCN-CEC, co-coordinated a year's project on wild-life preservation. The inaugural function began with a silent prayer. The Headmistress, Mrs. Kalavalli Henry, of Nehru Vidhyasalai, HSS, Narimedu, Madurai, welcomed the

participants. The co-coordinator described about the project of the preservation of Primates and Bats. The education packets received from Zoo Outreach Organisation were distributed by the Principal, Mr. Joseph Arul Antony of Katie Wilcox Mat. Hr. Sec. School and Mr. A. Paul Jeyakaran, the retired Deputy Registrar of Madurai – Kamaraj University. Guide lines were given and the participants were taken to Alagarkoil.

The students observed the behaviour of monkeys and referred the same with educational materials that were received. The days activities were of observation, drawing and cultural programme. Guidelines were given for monthly activities till October, 2007.

The Principal Mr. Joseph Arul Antony will co-ordinate by receiving the monthly reports from the four schools and submit the final report with the core committee members viz., Mrs. Jessie Jaeyakaran, Mrs. Kalavalli Henry, Miss. K. Vijayalakshmi and Mrs. Sona.

Submitted by: Paul Jessie Jeyakaran, Madurai

International Animal & Birds Welfare Society celebrates Wildlife Week

The International Animal & Birds Welfare Society-Guttur, Anantpur-dist, A.P celebrated Wildlife Week from 1-7th October 2006 with the collaboration of schools and Junior College and Animal Husbandry Department. For these celebrations Zoo Outreach Organisation provided very useful educational materials and posters. This year we stuck all posters in our society animal ambulance to make a mobile educational unit, and distributed wildlife related leaflets and posters in all schools. The following is a list of our activities and the schools.

Oct 1 - Training to the school teachers on wild life welfare, Govt Junior College, Penukonda for 35 school teachers.

Oct 2 - Essay writing and Electoral Competition at P. H. School, Guttur for 55 students from 5 different schools.

Oct 3 - Drawing Competition at Santinikethan English Medium School, Penukonda with 40 school students from 8 schools participating.

Oct 4 - World day for animals was celebrated with a rally involving 5 School students and one Junior college wearing masks and placards in two kilometer radius of the town,

Oct 5 - Quiz Program at Z.P.H.School-Guttur for class five to eight students who had five round of questions all related to wildlife and welfare.

Oct 6 – Programme at Santhinikethan English medium School with 40 minutes video show on making waves for Seals. A total of 250 students participated.

Oct 7 - Games at Pragathi English Medium School for 50 students from 10 schools. Our educational officers conducted several games for school students.

Submitted by Manjunath Gurikani, International Animal & Birds Welfare Society, Guttur, Andhra Pradesh

Report on observation of 52nd Wildlife Week 2006 by APOWA

A week - long programme on observation of Wildlife Week 2006 was inaugurated with an impressive inaugural function. Shri B.K. Rout, President APOWA inaugurated the programme. The staff, students, teachers participated in it at the office premises of APOWA. The President delivered a talk

on animal welfare, importance of observation of Wildlife week. After introducing the contents he explained in detail about the educational packets of ZOO, Coimbatore and the “National Art Competition on Seal of their Natural Environment” of WTI-IFAW, New Delhi. A wildlife photo exhibition was arranged at the office premises of APOWA after the inaugural function. The rest of the week activities were organised at different school campus such as BMET campus, USAK High School, Arua, Kadaliban. World Animal Day was celebrated by a medical camp as conducted at Nilakanthapur village and a feeding camp arranged for stray and domestic animals in marshghai of Kendrapara district. On 5th October 2006 an awareness programme was conducted to stress the importance of compassion and love towards animals. Students of Karuna clubs were taken to a near by village named ‘Nuapatana’, where an awareness camp was organized. “Voice of the voiceless” was the theme of the play staged by the students of Karuna club as a part of the awareness camp in that village. They conducted street plays highlighting the torture and agony, when the victims, their parents, relatives and villagers were undergoing because of this social evil. An exhibition was also arranged for the villagers. The film show on “making waves for seals” was presented at end of the day. On 6th October 2006, competitions among school students took place during various events. e.g., ABCs wildlife, essay, colouring competition, compassion stories talk, dialogue on wildlife welfare. On 7th October we conducted the valedictory function and closing ceremony. Finally, the president declared the closing of the 52nd Wildlife Week 2006 observed by APOWA with the national anthem.

The week long education programme of APOWA was analyzed and evaluated by a group of experts governing body members of the organization and found satisfactory. Such programme of APOWA highlighted the importance of wildlife and environment protection care. The participating school thanked APOWA for planning a programme of this kind which is new to their students. The children were happy to carry the educational materials with a decision in their mind to save the neglected wildlife. **Submitted by: Bijaya Kumar Kabi, Director, APOWA, Orissa.**

Eco education to the Tsunami affected students At Arignar Anna Zoological Park

Arignar Anna Zoological Park has been running a number of eco awareness programme for different target groups like students and teachers for nearly a decade. The approach of the programme is further modified to include handicapped and orphanage students in the activity and priority has been given to the same kind of target groups every year. .

It is interesting to note that in the history of zoo education of AAZP an unique awareness programme was organized to the dejected target group of Tsunami affected orphanage students on 21.02.2005 and 02.05.2005. A total number of 60 students and 8 teachers of Ramakrishna higher secondary school of Kothandapuram, Nagai Dt., 130 students from Suyam charitable Trust, Chennai participated in this special event. The Sports Authority of India organized a trip for the Tsunami affected 20 sports students of Andaman Nicobar

and 13 students from Cuddalore Dt, Tamil Nadu to the Zoo on 01.06.2005. The management of the school brought these students to change their mindset of nature disasters impact by which they had lost their parents and other kith & kin which had deeply hurt the younger generation.

The Tsunami orphanage students were treated as our special guests and an impressive multimedia presentation was given to the participants on the role of modern zoos in the conservation of endangered species and their management.

They were taken into the zoo and explained the importance of nature and their role in their ecosystem. Experienced zoo keepers explained about handling of animals and hand rearing technique to the group, undoubtedly the zoo visit triggered positive thinking towards the nature. The teachers who accompanied the children praised the programme and assured that the eco- education had given some extent of courage to their life. **Submitted by: N. Bhaskar, Biologist, Arignar Anna Zoological Park, Chennai.**

Wildlife Week Celebration and Environment Workshop

A two day programme was conducted at the Bandipur National Park, Karnataka on 15 and 16th August 2006 for selected school children of age group 14-18. For various administrative reasons the Wildlife Week Celebration was celebrated well in advance this year. A total of 28 students took part in it. The programme was planned in such a way that the education materials received from Zoo Outreach Organisation, Coimbatore was utilized though out the programme at different times. On the first day, soon after reaching Bandipur, the students after familiarizing the campus gathered in front of the interpretation centre at Bandipur NP. After a brief introduction about the programme and sharing everyone's experience on wildlife, the students visited the interpretation Centre and found it very informative. For introduction "Talk to the feather" game was played. A feather was given to a participant and he was asked to tell to the feather his name, school, class and some interesting event that happened in his life related to wildlife.

After the visit the author lead the students to play "Web of Life" to make them understand interdependency of life for in the ecosystem. Later in the evening, the group was taken for a Safari ride in the Park vehicle to get the glimpse of animals of Bandipur National Park. In the evening, Mr. Rajkumar, naturalist showed a power point presentation to teach them the key and the ways to identify birds and reptiles. Through his slide show on birds and snakes, students learnt to identify birds with special features like crest, colour, body size and shape.

On the second day morning students were taken for Nature walk. They identified about 10 wild mammals, 21 birds and 6 trees.

RFO Ramalingu delivered a talk on Bandipur National Park with the help of Power point presentation.

The entire afternoon of the second day was spent to understand the concept of wildlife and the need to preserve them through games and activities utilizing all the resource

materials provided by Zoo Outreach Organisation. The author conducted 'Survival of the fittest' game to make them understand how living organisms are adapted themselves for their successful living. To make them understand the carrying capacity of a forest the game called "Dancing Bear" was played. This also helped the students to understand the causes for the decline of the forest and the effect of it on the animals that live in the forest.

Passing the story was played with the group. The game on food web helped them to understand the food chain and the energy flow.

Towards the end *Rakhi* tying ceremony was conducted and the students took a pledge to preserve the wildlife. Prithivi Vallab, Sheejo James gave a talk on "*Zoo as a learning Centre*" and *ZOO: a repository of wild animals*". As a token of appreciation all the students were given posters and stickers. All above activities were conducted utilizing the kits provided by Zoo Outreach Organisation. I take this opportunity to thank my school for giving me an opportunity to share the experience with the students and also to utilize the resource materials developed by ZOO. The credit goes to the sponsors of these materials Chester Zoological Gardens, Bat Conservation International, Fauna and Flora International and Riverbanks for their generosity to issue those materials at no cost. Submitted by: **S. Mamtha, De Paul International Residential School, Mysore**

ARKive Education

ARKive is the world's centralised library of films and photographs of U.K. and the world's endangered species – freely accessible to all online for private research and internal educational purposes. Hailed as the digital Noah's Ark, it has won numerous education and communication awards since its launch by Sir David Attenborough in 2003.

- The main ARKive website www.arkive.org is designed for a variety of users (11 years old and upwards). Its content consists of one of the largest collection of wildlife and environmental films and images (including a huge number of Asian endangered species) that can be viewed for free, and is relevant to a wide range of science and geography subjects in primary or secondary schools and up to university standard (all can be downloaded free of charge).
- Planet ARKive www.planetarkive.org is for children aged 7-11, and designed to make life science learning and environmental education a widely enjoyable experience. Again it is free and fun to use.

- ARKive Education (www.arkiveeducation.org) is for teachers and other educators – and offers downloadable briefings, lesson plans and project ideas to support curriculum learning targets. It too is free to use.

Further information on linking to ARKive is available at <http://www.arkive.org/links.html>.

2006 Education Reports with ZOO / SAN-IZE

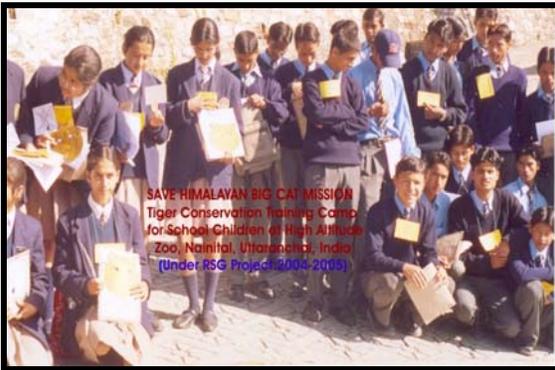
'Saving the Tigers' - Awareness Programmes at Conservation Himalayas

Tiger education for the school children and community is one of the priority areas of conservation education activity of Conservation Himalayas, a Chandigarh-based nongovernmental organization (NGO) that has been actively working for the last four years in the field of conservation education in the northwestern Himalayan state of Uttaranchal. Uttaranchal is home to a wide variety of wild taxa including the big cat family of tiger, *Panthera tigris tigris*. Corbett National Park in Nainital district of Uttaranchal shelters as many as 350 wild living tigers.

Conservation Himalayas took the education component as a priority area of tiger conservation endeavour, and to target students, forest guards, rangers and village community members to be a part of the Tiger Education Net in the tiger range areas of Nainital district of Uttaranchal state. Two types of programmes—Tiger Conservation Training Camp (TCTC) for school students and zoo care takers and Wild Action Orientation Programme (WAOP) for the villagers, forest guards and rangers - were initiated in Nainital district. The TCTC programme was organized in the High Altitude Zoo premises at Nainital and the WAOP programme was organized in the premises of the forest guest house at Paharpani in Nainital district.

TCTC Programme:

The TCTC activity for school students was organized in the premises of the High Altitude Zoo (HAZ) at Nainital with participation of 60 school students from three local public schools. Forest officials including Director of the Nainital Zoo, Chief Conservator of Forest, Nainital Division, D.F.O. Nainital, Deputy Director,



HAZ, Nainital, participated in this programme along with the student participants. The programme was divided into two parts. In the first part, the thrust was on *Learn Tiger & Save Tiger* and the students and forest officials were appased of the problems faced by the tiger subspecies through presentation entitled *Tiger Facts* with participants sharing their views and concerns. The second part was a workshop session in which the students were divided into five tiger groups, namely Indo-Chinese Tiger, Bengal Tiger, South-China Tiger, Sumatran Tiger, and Siberian Tiger, with ten students in each group. Paper Tiger Maps on three categories - Major Habitats of Asia, Current Tiger Ranges, and Historic Tiger Ranges - to understand tiger history.

The third part of this TCTC programme was a tiger appraisal activity inside the zoo where the students were taken to a Siberian Tiger enclosure at the zoo. The veterinary doctor introduced the students to this tiger species and briefed the students about the conservation status of the five remaining tiger subspecies both in the zoo and natural conditions. Students were given Tiger Kits received from ZOO.

WAOP Programme: This programme was community oriented with an objective to motivate the grass root level community members about how their role is vital in saving the local wildlife, and how their direct participation in the community conservation programme helps sustain the wildlife. In a specially arranged programme at Paharpani, the villagers were given detail information about the current problems faced by the tigers in different tiger reserves including the Corbett National Park in Nainital district of Uttaranchal state.

From Awareness to Action: This community programme was well appreciated by the forest department authorities of Uttaranchal. Later a Village Wild Action Group was formed with active enrolment of 15 women and 10 men who pledged to work in coordination with the local government and with Conservation Himalayas for the protection of wildlife. The primary role of this action group will be to collect any type of information relating to wildlife poaching, wildlife trade and illegal tree cutting, and inform the concerned forest and wildlife wing so that such activities can be curtailed with immediate effect. Conservation Himalayas also continues to remain in constant touch with the leaders of this action group for field appraisal, wild communication networking, and feedback.

Programme 2

Tiger Conservation Education Programme at Deer Park Almora, Uttaranchal

At deer park, Almora, one 'Saving the Tigers Awareness workshop was organized on 6th September 2006 for the forest guards, students and school teachers. The theme for this workshop was 'save tiger and say no to tiger body parts'. More than 100 students, 5 teachers, 4 forest guards, and 2 foresters participated in this half-day programme of 3 sessions: i) Learning Tiger Facts; ii) Tiger Mask Making; and iii) 'save tiger and say no-to-tiger body parts pledge. The 'Teachers for Tigers Educators Tool Kit' was used as the resource material for the lesson study activity in which the students were given information about different types of tiger subspecies, types of tiger subspecies already extinct and currently living in natural habitat, historic and current tiger range, threats, conservation and Project Tiger. Students played interactive games as part of active learning for these lessons.



The second session on 'Tiger mask making was conducted by S. K. Sahoo who taught participants how to make tiger masks, and Aruna Kumari Negi assisting. Five students wearing tiger masks represented five living subspecies of tigers in their natural habitat.

At the end of the programme participants pledged together not to use any products made from tiger body parts. They also pledged to teach their friends, relatives and neighbours about tiger facts and ask them not to use any tiger body part products. At the end of the programme, Tiger Pledge certificates of ZOO organization were distributed to the participating students. **Submitted By Dr. Santosh Kumar Sahoo,**

Conservation Himalayas, email: chimalayas@yahoo.com / arunameeru@hotmail.com

Zoo History, Zoo Behaviour & Understanding Snakes with ZOOWATCH

The organization ZOOWATCH was founded in 1993 with the sole aim of improving living conditions for the captive wildlife in Trivandrum Zoo. Part of our activities also involves conducting workshops and public education programmes for specific audiences that concentrate on important but neglected environmental themes. On October 30, 2006, ZOOWATCH members Mr. Palalayam Babu, Mr. Praveen Muralee and Dr. Latha Tampi organized a one day workshop at the Trivandrum Zoo. The Zoo Director and his staff kindly provided the Museum Auditorium at Trivandrum Zoo and ensured basic facilities. The two topics covered in the workshop were 1. An Introduction to Zoo history and Zoo behaviour and 2. Understanding Snakes.

Participants were school teachers, nature club members and community leaders who will transmit the facts we give them to their students, friends and colleagues. The programme was scheduled on the regular zoo holiday on Monday so that participants could study snakes and view feeding procedures without distractions. Mr. Praveen Muralee inaugurated the programme and said that school teachers and community leaders are in the best possible position to make good use of the information that we provide. Afterwards, Dr. Tampi introduced the topic of the history of zoos (from menageries to conservation and resource centres) and the manner in which their focus and functions have changed over the centuries. After this there was a discussion of the correct mode of behaviour in zoos and how teachers can teach respect for wildlife and nature in general.



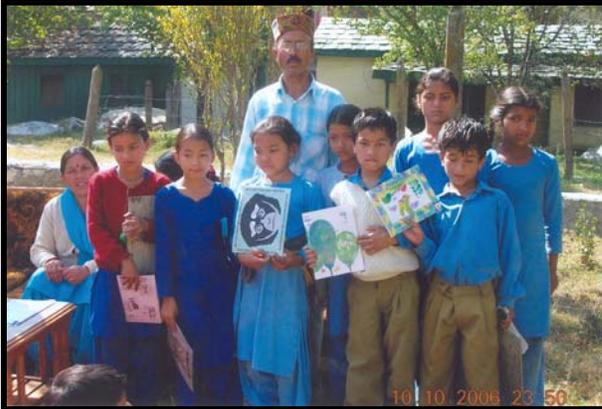
Mr. Palalayam Babu and Mr. Praveen Muralee introduced participants to the "Wonderful World of Snakes." Many fascinating facts about snakes were revealed, all questions were answered and common misconceptions and superstitions were debunked. After lunch the delegates were escorted to the reptile enclosure where they were permitted to observe and study how a king cobra feeds followed by a talk by the Zoo Superintendent. Mr. Abu explained various factors involved in planning and construction of the new Reptile Enclosure at the Trivandrum Zoo, soon to be officially inaugurated.

The workshop closed with a brief summary by Mr. Muralee and Mr. Babu who stressed the most important fact, namely that every participant should and must carry out similar events in their schools, clubs or communities.

Submitted by Dr. Latha Tampi, ZOOWATCH, contact email : lathatampi@yahoo.com

Wildlife Week Report from Kullu, Himachal Pradesh

We have seven wildlife sanctuaries in this division. The materials received from ZOO was distributed to Govt. schools during wildlife week celebration. It was very helpful in raising awareness amongst children.



We selected schools situated within the PAs or along boundaries for wildlife week – 2006 celebration. Children were taken for a trek in each sanctuary. They were given information about importance of forests, fauna and flora and use of plants in health care. At the end of trek they were made to submit a report in a specific format. Five prizes were given for best reports. The material received from Zoo Outreach Organisation was distributed in the beginning. A quiz competition was conducted and the winner received prizes each in senior and junior category.

Some photographs taken during these two events showing children wearing the masks and displaying educational material are enclosed. We will continue to seek similar help in future also. **Submitted by: Division Forest Officer Wildlife Division, Kullu, Himachal Pradesh**

Wildlife Week Report from Ahmedabad Zoo

We celebrated wild life week and allowed free entry for four thousand children as part of the Wildlife Week celebration. This year we also provided touch table of different materials to all children. This was appreciated and enjoyed by adults as well.



Snake show and drawing competitions were also organized along with the film show on wild life. Educational materials provided by Zoo Outreach Organisation were highly useful to all children. There is a great demand for these materials from the schools for their classroom education.

Local TV channels and press gave good coverage to all these activities. Thanks for supporting wild life week celebration and providing educational materials. **Submitted by: R.K. Sahu, Zoo Superintendent, President SAZARC, Kamla Nehru Zoological Garden, Ahmedabad, Gujarat**

Conservation of Nature Society, Kozhikode, Kerala celebrates Wildlife Week 2006

The conservation of Nature Society organized the wildlife week celebrations during the week October (2 to 8th 2006) for college students. The main theme was the threat faced by the wild life in the State. The recent death of three Leopards in the District of Wayanad (Kerala) was taken as an example. The Leopards caught by the forest & wild life wing of the State was dead. The students put up various suggestions in the case of similar incidents.

Also another issue on which awareness programme was done was the unwanted cuttings of huge number of shade trees in the state which has led to the destruction of the life of the wild birds/butterflies/beetles etc. The recent incident of the butterflies being caught in the district of Malappuram in the reserve forests for sale to countries like Japan can be cited as examples of another threat faced by our wild life. The posters received from the Zoo Outreach Organisation were distributed in the function. As we have received the posters of the SLOTH BEAR the threat faced by them was also discussed.

Awareness programme on the threat faced by the wild animals in the sea like the dolphins, whales, sharks, sea-turtles were conducted. **Submitted by: Vinod Kumar Damodar, Joint Secretary, Executive Committee, Conservation of Nature Society, Kozhikode, Kerala.**

Wildlife Week Celebration 2006 Report from Madurai, Tamil Nadu

The first week of October in each year is celebrated as wild-life week concentrating on the preservation and the protection of wildlife. This year Mrs. Jessie Jeyakaran, member of IUCN-CEC, co-coordinated a year's project on wild-life preservation. The inaugural function began with a silent prayer. The Headmistress, Mrs. Kalavalli Henry, of Nehru Vidhyasalai, HSS, Narimedu, Madurai, welcomed the participants. The co-coordinator described about the project of the preservation of Primates and Bats. The education packets received from Zoo Outreach Organisation were distributed by the Principal, Mr. Joseph Arul Antony of Katie Wilcox Mat. Hr. Sec. School and Mr. A. Paul Jeyakaran, the retired Deputy Registrar of Madurai – Kamaraj University. Guide lines were given and the participants were taken to Alagarkoil.

The students observed the behaviour of monkeys and referred the same with educational materials that were received. The days activities were of observation, drawing and cultural programme. Guidelines were given for monthly activities till October, 2007.



The Principal Mr. Joseph Arul Antony will co-ordinate by receiving the monthly reports from the four schools and submit the final report with the core committee members viz., Mrs. Jessie Jaeyakaran, Mrs. Kalavalli Henry, Miss. K. Vijayalakshmi and Mrs. Sona.

Submitted by: Jessie Jeyakaran, Madurai

International Animal & Birds Welfare Society celebrates Wildlife Week

The International Animal & Birds Welfare Society-Guttur, Anantpur-dist, A.P celebrated Wildlife Week from 1-7th October 2006 with the collaboration of schools and Junior College and Animal Husbandry Department. For these celebrations Zoo Outreach Organisation provided very useful educational materials and posters. This year we stuck all posters in our society animal ambulance to make a mobile educational unit, and distributed wildlife related leaflets and posters in all schools. The following is a list of our activities and the schools.

Oct 1 - Training to the school teachers on wild life welfare, Govt Junior College, Penukonda for 35 school teachers.

Oct 2 - Essay writing and Electoral Competition at P. H. School, Guttur for 55 students from 5 different schools.



Explaining about Bear posters and students listening the programme with Masks

Oct 3 - Drawing Competition at Santinikethan English Medium School, Penukonda with 40 school students from 8 schools participating.

Oct 4 - World day for animals was celebrated with a rally involving 5 School students and one Junior college wearing masks and placards in two kilometer radius of the town,

Oct 5 - Quiz Program at Z.P.H.School-Guttur for class five to eight students who had five round of questions all related to wildlife and welfare.

Oct 6 – Programme at Santhinikethan English medium School with 40 minutes video show on making waves for Seals. A total of 250 students participated.

Oct 7 - Games at Pragathi English Medium School for 50 students from 10 schools. Our educational officers conducted several games for school students.

Submitted by Manjunath Gurikani, International Animal & Birds Welfare Society, Guttur, Andhra Pradesh

Report on observation of 52nd Wildlife Week 2006 by APOWA

A week - long programme on observation of Wildlife Week 2006 was inaugurated with an impressive inaugural function. Shri B.K. Rout, President APOWA inaugurated the programme. The staff, students, teachers participated in it at the office premises of APOWA. The President delivered a talk on animal welfare, importance of observation of Wildlife week. After introducing the contents he explained in detail about the educational packets of ZOO, Coimbatore and the "National Art Competition on Seal of their Natural Environment" of WTI-IFAW, New Delhi. A wildlife photo exhibition was arranged at the office premises of APOWA after the inaugural function. The rest of the week activities were organised at different school campus such as BMET campus, USAK High School, Arua, Kadaliban. World Animal Day was celebrated by a medical camp as conducted at Nilakanthapur village and a feeding camp arranged for stray and domestic animals in marshaghai of Kendrapara district.



On 5th October 2006 an awareness programme was conducted to stress the importance of compassion and love towards animals. Students of Karuna clubs were taken to a near by village named 'Nuapatana', where an awareness camp was organized. "Voice of the voiceless" was the theme of the play staged by the



students of Karuna club as a part of the awareness camp in that village. They conducted street plays highlighting the torture and agony, when the victims, their parents, relatives and villagers were undergoing because of this social evil. An exhibition was also arranged for the villagers. The film show on "making waves for seals" was presented at end of the day. On 6th October 2006, competitions among school students took place during various events. e.g., ABCs wildlife, essay, colouring competition, compassion stories talk, dialogue on wildlife welfare. On 7th October we conducted the valedictory function and closing ceremony. Finally, the president

declared the closing of the 52nd Wildlife Week 2006 observed by APOWA with the national anthem.

The week long education programme of APOWA was analyzed and evaluated by a group of experts governing body members of the organization and found satisfactory.

Such programme of APOWA highlighted the importance of wildlife and environment protection care. The participating school thanked APOWA for planning a programme of this kind which is new to their students. The children were happy to carry the educational materials with a decision in their mind to save the neglected wildlife. **Submitted by: Bijaya Kumar Kabi, Director, APOWA, Orissa.**

Eco education to the Tsunami affected students At Arignar Anna Zoological Park

Arignar Anna Zoological Park has been running a number of eco awareness programme for different target groups like students and teachers for nearly a decade. The approach of the programme is further modified to include handicapped and orphanage students in the activity and priority has been given to the same kind of target groups every year. .

It is interesting to note that in the history of zoo education of AAZP an unique awareness programme was organized to the dejected target group of Tsunami affected orphanage students on 21.02.2005 and 02.05.2005. A total number of 60 students and 8 teachers of Ramakrishna higher secondary school of Kothandapuram, Nagai Dt., 130 students from Suyam charitable Trust, Chennai participated in this special event. The Sports Authority of India organized a trip for the Tsunami affected 20 sports students of Andaman Nicobar and 13 students from Cuddalore Dt, Tamil Nadu to the Zoo on 01.06.2005. The management of the school brought these students to change their mindset of nature disasters impact by which they had lost their parents and other kith & kin which had deeply hurt the younger generation.

The Tsunami orphanage students were treated as our special guests and an impressive multimedia presentation was given to the participants on the role of modern zoos in the conservation of endangered species and their management.

They were taken into the zoo and explained the importance of nature and their role in their ecosystem. Experienced zoo keepers explained about handling of animals and hand rearing technique to the group, undoubtedly the zoo visit triggered positive thinking towards the nature. The teachers who accompanied the children praised the programme and assured that the eco- education had given some extent of courage to their life. **Submitted by: N. Bhaskar, Biologist, Arignar Anna Zoological Park, Chennai.**

Wildlife Week Celebration and Environment Workshop

A two day programme was conducted at the Bandipur National Park, Karnataka on 15 and 16th August 2006 for selected school children of age group 14-18. For various administrative reasons the Wildlife Week Celebration was celebrated well in advance this year. A total of 28 students took part in it. The programme was planned in such a way that the education materials received from Zoo Outreach Organisation, Coimbatore was utilized though out the programme at different times. On the first day, soon after reaching Bandipur, the students after familiarizing the campus gathered in front of the interpretation centre at Bandipur NP. After a brief introduction about the programme and sharing everyone's experience on wildlife, the students visited the interpretation Centre and found it very informative. For introduction "Talk to the feather" game was played. A feather was given to a participant and he was asked to tell to the feather his name, school, class and some interesting event that happened in his life related to wildlife.

After the visit the author lead the students to play "Web of Life" to make them understand interdependency of life for in the ecosystem. Later in the evening, the group was taken for a Safari ride in the Park vehicle to



get the glimpse of animals of Bandipur National Park. In the evening, Mr. Rajkumar, naturalist showed a power point presentation to teach them the key and the ways to identify birds and reptiles. Through his slide show on birds and snakes, students learnt to identify birds with special features like crest, colour, body size and shape.

On the second day morning students were taken for Nature walk. They identified about 10 wild mammals, 21 birds and 6 trees.

RFO Ramalingu delivered a talk on Bandipur National Park with the help of Power point presentation.

The entire afternoon of the second day was spent to understand the concept of wildlife and the need to preserve them through games and activities utilizing all the resource materials provided by Zoo Outreach Organisation. The author conducted 'Survival of the fittest' game to make them understand how living organisms are adapted themselves for their successful living. To make them understand the carrying capacity of a forest the game called "Dancing Bear" was played. This also helped the students to understand the causes for the decline of the forest and the effect of it on the animals that live in the forest.



Passing the story was played with the group. The game on food web helped them to understand the food chain and the energy flow.

Towards the end *Rakhi* tying ceremony was conducted and the students took a pledge to preserve the wildlife. Prithivi Vallab, Sheejo James gave a talk on "Zoo as a learning Centre" and *ZOO: a repository of wild animals*". As a token of appreciation all the students were given posters and stickers. All above activities were conducted utilizing the kits provided by Zoo Outreach Organisation. I take this opportunity to thank my school for giving me an opportunity to share the experience with the students and also to utilize the resource materials developed by ZOO. The credit goes to the sponsors of these materials Chester Zoological Gardens, Bat Conservation International, Fauna and Flora International and Riverbanks for their generosity to issue those materials at no cost. Submitted by: **S. Mamtha, De Paul International Residential School, Mysore.**