



WWF

NEWS
LETTER

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Mruthika

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FROM THE STATE DIRECTOR'S DESK

Living out WWF's mission in the State is going on full steam ahead with our various projects, programmes and other interventions. The ongoing project on *'Land use/ landform alterations due to laterite quarrying and mining and its environmental impacts'* is moving forward and is at a major turning point of WWF signing the MoU with GeoVin Solutions Pvt. Ltd. In Thiruvananthapuram for carrying out the GIS and remote sensing part of the project work. We hope that the joint venture will yield the expected results – satisfying both quantity and quality, in this project and in future we definitely plan to take this relationship forward in other projects and programmes too. In continuation of the State level study on *'Kerala Going 100% Renewable Energy by 2030'*, as per the suggestions from the Stakeholder Workshop, study has been initiated for Palakkad District. The first Stakeholder Workshop was conducted at Palakkad on 16 Oct 2014 in which around 30 participants attended and contributed actively to the discussions and deliberations. We hope that the project will be successfully completed as a joint venture of WWF-India and WISE Pune and the findings of the study will be able to make a big turn around in Kerala from making a major shift from conventional energy sources to renewable sources and thereby reducing our carbon footprint and mitigating global warming and climate change – the greatest man-made disaster that humankind and other life forms and the Planet Earth itself is faced with these days. The recently organized meeting for formulating the *'National Conservation Strategy and Action Plan for Marine Turtles'* by the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Govt. of India in association with Wildlife Institute of India at the Kerala Forest Research Institute, Peechi, Thrissur helped us to present our findings and observations and also put forward our recommendations of our study on *'Status and Issues of Marine Turtles along the Kerala Coast'* and we also used the platform to reiterate our commitment to do

the possible to save the very few number of marine turtles which comes to the Kerala Coast and its coastal waters for breeding and nesting. Over the past few months, we have been able to organize various events in different locations in Kerala to distribute around 5000 CFLs freely to households from the economically backward section of the society. This is an extension of Earth Hour 2014 and the CFLs have been provided jointly by KSEB and EMC. Many individuals and institutions partnered with us in organizing the events and we take this opportunity to thank each one of them for partnering with us. We used the platform in all the locations to stress the need for energy conservation in our State and thereby being energy secure. The past two months also witnessed our regular and many other education, awareness and outreach programmes, significant of them being the *'Common Bird Monitoring Programme'* which really helps us to take bird watching to the people, encourage them to participate by action in the field and also acknowledge their efforts and contribution. Bird watching was organized exclusively in and around Ashtamudi Lake in both the months which attracted a lot of volunteers, as also the Sunday Bird Walk arranged in and around Punchakkari wetlands in October. Two Teachers Training Workshops on EE and ESD were also organized at Kottayam separately for School Teachers and Teacher Trainees which had around 40 and 120 active participants respectively. As part of initiating the penetration of ESD in our mainline curriculum, we organized a very small closed group discussion and we hope to work on the outcome and suggestions in the coming days. The Nature Education Camp at Avalanche was a very different and enthralling experience for the nine campers as shared by them. We also partnered with a lot of other like minded individuals and institutions in their programmes.

Renjan Mathew Varghese,
State Director

IMPORTANT NEWS ON ENVIRONMENT AND NATURE

GLOBAL

Global warming has doubled risk of harsh winters in Eurasia, research finds

The risk of severe winters in Europe and northern Asia has been doubled by global warming, according to new research. The counter-intuitive finding is the result of climate change

melting the Arctic ice cap and causing new wind patterns that push freezing air and snow southwards. "The origin of frequent Eurasian severe winters is global warming," said Prof. Masato Mori at the University of Tokyo, who led the new research. Climate change is heating the Arctic much faster than lower latitudes and the discovery that the chances of severe winters have already doubled shows that the impacts of global warming are not only a future threat. Melting Arctic ice has also been implicated in recent wet summers in the UK. The new research, published in Nature Geoscience, shows that the increased risk of icy winters will

persist for the next few decades. But beyond that, continued global warming overwhelms the colder winter weather. The Arctic is expected to be ice-free in late summer by the 2030s, halting the changes to wind patterns, while climate change will continue to increase average temperatures. (Source: <http://www.theguardian.com>, 26 Oct 2014)

Sea ice rises in Antarctic, falls in Arctic

The extent of sea ice in Antarctica is set to reach a record high, scientists said as they announced that Arctic sea ice appeared to have shrunk to its sixth lowest level ever. The National Ice and Snow Data Centre (NSIDC) said satellite data was expected to shortly confirm this. "Antarctic sea ice is poised to set a record maximum this year, now at 19.7 million sq.km. (7.6m.sq.m.) and continuing to increase," the Centre, considered one of the world's top authorities on sea ice data, said in a statement. The conundrum of why Antarctic sea ice appears to be expanding as the Arctic decreases had puzzled polar observers, but scientists have suggested that the reason Antarctic ice extent appears to be increasing is changing wind patterns. Figures released by the NSIDC in Boulder, Colorado, show that the so-called Arctic sea ice minimum — the point where the extent of sea ice there is at its lowest after the summer, before it begins to refreeze for winter — is expected to be confirmed imminently and would be millions of square kilometres below the long-term average. (Source: *The Hindu*, Sept 18 2014)

NATIONAL

'Kaziranga should get proposed additions for better management'

Kaziranga National Park has lost about 84sq.km. since 1904 due to erosion caused by the river Brahmaputra. The shrinkage in area coupled with the increase in its wildlife population has resulted in shortage of required space for rhino and other park animals, said Assam Environment and Forest Minister Rockybul Hussain. Each rhino requires one sq.km. area but at present only 0.02sq.km. is available to each rhino in Kaziranga. Density of tiger population here is also one of the highest in the world and it is about 32 to 34 tigers per 100sq.km. The Minister said the solution lies in Revenue Department acquiring and handing over the possession of all the proposed additions of Kaziranga to the park authorities for better management. The total area of Kaziranga, including all the six additions, is 893.42 sq.km. The Park has a population of 2329 rhinos, 1163 wild elephants, 106 tigers, 1937 buffalos and 1168 swamp deers. (Source: *The Hindu*, Sept 3 2014)

Mangroves undergo change in Sunderbans

A recent study of mangrove forests in Sunderbans has revealed a change in their vegetation pattern, with the high

salt-tolerant *Avicennia* species being edged out by *Ceriops decandra*, a relatively less-salt tolerant variety of mangrove, suggesting an evolution of the mangroves. The study titled 'Benchmark Studies on the Status of Mangrove Forest' has been conducted by the Nature Environment & Wildlife Society (NEWS), sponsored by the Sunderban Biosphere Reserve under the 'Mangrove For Future' scheme of the International Union for Conservation of Nature. "It was earlier believed that salinity is the main determining factor for mangroves in the Sunderbans. But the study points to pH also being an important factor," Himadri Sekhar Debnath, Principal Scientist involved with the project and former Joint Director of Botanical Survey of India (BSI) told *The Hindu*. A change in the mangrove species may lead to change in biodiversity, ecology, species variation and finally to the variation in gene pool, Ajanta Dy. Project Director (NEWS) said. (Source: *The Hindu*, Sept 7, 2014)

STATE

52 Odonata species seen at Kerala Agricultural University

As many as 52 species of *Odonata*, comprising 36 species of *Anisoptera* (dragonflies) and *Zygoptera* (damselflies), have been spotted on the main campus of the Kerala Agricultural University. The species were spotted as part of a study conducted by P.O. Nameer, Head of the Centre for Wildlife Studies of KAU's College of Forestry; C.K. Adarsh of the Centre for Wildlife Sciences; and K.S. Aneesh of the Department of Forestry and Wood Technology, Sir Syed College, Taliparamba. *Odonata*, an order of carnivorous insects comprising dragonflies and damselflies, is considered an important component of freshwater ecosystems and is an indicator of the health of the ecosystem because of its amphibious life history, relatively short generation time, high trophic position, and diversity. (Source: *The Hindu*, Sept 9, 2014)

State's conservation bids flagged at global meet

The conservation efforts launched by the State Government and local bodies in Kerala took centre stage at the 12th Conference of Parties (COP12) to the Convention on Biodiversity (CBD) at Pyeongchang in South Korea. Kerala State Biodiversity Board Chairman Oommen V. Oommen and Member Secretary K.P. Laladhas were participating in the 13-day conference discussing the progress in meeting global biodiversity targets for 2020. Representatives of governments, U.N. agencies, non-governmental organisations, academia and indigenous and local communities from 193 countries are participating in the global meet to consider a series of strategic, administrative and budgetary steps to promote the conservation of biodiversity, the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the use of genetic resources. (Source: *The Hindu*, Oct 18, 2014)

SPECIES OF THE ISSUE

Crab Apple Mangrove (*Sonneratia caseolaris*)
ചക്കരക്കണ്ടൽ



Crab Apple Mangrove is a mangrove found in estuaries in the size of a medium tree of 8 to 10 feet height. It resembles with the Nakshatrakkandal (*Sonneratia alba*) as the flowers have star like calyx. Unlike the Nakshatrakkandal, this has pink flowers. The fruit seems like a green apple with a long style making this a beautiful creation of Mother Nature. These are reported from the estuaries of Alappuzha, Kasaragode, Kollam, Thiruvananthapuram, Kottayam, Ernakulam, Kozhikkode, Kannur districts. But this mangrove is not that much common, while Nakshatrakkandal is a rare one. Pollution and wetland reclamation are the major threat for these rare mangroves performing valuable services to the ecosystem.

A.K. Sivakumar

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Do you know the collective name we call for animals? Some are here.....

Animal	Group
Rat or Mice	Mischief
Parrot	Company
Rabbit	Herd
Fish	School
Owl	Parliament
Lion	Pried
Giraffe	Tower
Dog	Pack
Vulture	Committee
Tortoise	Creep

Tadpole	Cloud
Shark	Shiver
Oysters	Bed
Mongoose	Business
Insect	Swam
Bullock	Drove
Caterpillar	Army
Cockroach	Intrusion
Crab	Cast
Dolphin	Pod

MEMBER'S DESK

Memories of the Wildlife Orientation Camp at Avalanche - Parsons Valley Forest of Nilgiris

We reached Mettupalayam Railway Station at around 6 in the morning. After a quick breakfast, we boarded the Nilgiri Express for our journey through the blue hills to Ooty. The weather was magnificent. Sun was shining bright and the rich biodiversity of the Nilgiris was evident through out the vintage route. Just before noon, we reached Ooty and boarded the bus for our onward trip to our first camp point, Avalanche. Traveling through the vast farmlands of Ooty, we reached Avalanche Forest Dormitory just before sunset. A quick birding in the premises brought us luck. Species like Oriental white eye and Black Bulbul were spotted. Further more, during the rainy ride to Powerhouse, a Common Buzzard (*Buteo buteo*) was found perching on a lone branch of a tree enjoying the rain. A night session in the premises of our stay resulted in an exotic sighting, *Raorchestes signatus*; an endemic frog species.

We started early the next day. Several species were spotted during the birding session around the dormitory. Black and Orange Flycatcher, even though was spotted, remained out of range from the photographers of the group. But the blue beauty, the endemic Nilgiri Flycatcher, rewarded us with an exquisite perch for about half an hour. It was a treat for



the shutter bugs. Post breakfast session involved the safari to serene Upper Bhavani Reservoir. Sambar Deers and Wild Dogs, Dhole, were the major sightings on the way. The safari marked the end of our stay at Avalanche. The bus left Avalanche Forest Dormitory just before noon. Almost a mile away from the Forest Check Post we spotted another Common Buzzard on the road side.

We had lunch from Emerald Hotel and left for Parsons Valley. The route took us along the banks of the gorgeous Emerald Reservoir. Even though the road was bad, the journey was a riveting experience through some of the best forests in the Nilgiris. Several species including raptors and Barking Deer were spotted. We reached Parsons Valley forest bungalow in the evening. It was cold and silent, except for the occasional bird or deer calls. Typical Parsons Valley!



On the final day, as usual, we woke up early. A few of us, walked some distance through the Emerald route. Oriental white eyes were in plenty. We left for the Parsons Valley reservoir at around 8. The birding session there yielded a lot of species like Pied Bushchat, Black and Orange Flycatcher & Nilgiri Laughing Thrush. After spending some time near the reservoir and taking the customary group photo, we began our final journey back to Ooty. En route to Ooty the photographers got a great chance for some wonderful snaps of a Nilgiri Langur having a sip from a pothole on the road. The perfect moment to cap off an eventful trip!

Aswin V.N., 9400548619

SPECIAL FEATURE

നാട്ടുപക്ഷി നിരീക്ഷണം

പക്ഷികളെപ്പോലെത്തന്നെ പക്ഷി സർവ്വേകളുടെ കാര്യത്തിൽ ഇന്ത്യയിലെ മറ്റു സംസ്ഥാനത്തെ അപേക്ഷിച്ച് അതിസമ്പന്നമാണ് കേരളം. കേരളത്തിലെ മിക്കവാറും വന്യജീവി സങ്കേതങ്ങളിലും, റിസർവ് വനങ്ങളിലും, തണ്ണീർത്തടങ്ങളിലുമെല്ലാം തന്നെ കഴിഞ്ഞ 30 വർഷത്തിനുള്ളിൽ ഒരിക്കലേകിലും ഒരു പക്ഷിസർവ്വേ നടന്നിട്ടുണ്ടാവും. അതിന്റെ ഫലമായി തന്നെ നമുക്ക് കേരളത്തിലെ കാടുകളിലെ, തണ്ണീർതടങ്ങളിലെ, പക്ഷി

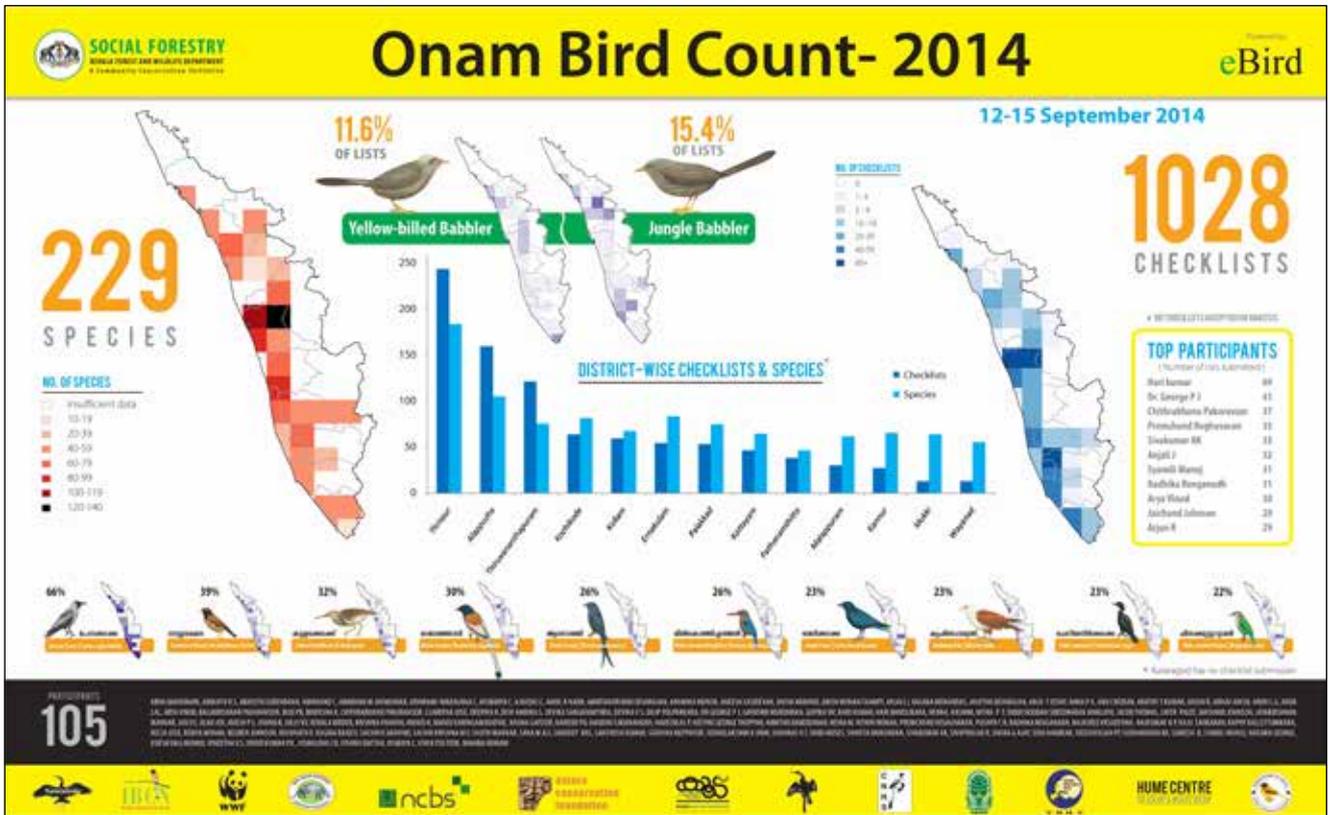
കളെക്കുറിച്ചുള്ള സാമാന്യം ഭേദപ്പെട്ട അറിവുണ്ട്. എന്നാൽ നമ്മുടെ ചുറ്റുപാടും നാട്ടിൻപുറങ്ങളിൽ കാണുന്ന 'സാധാരണ' പക്ഷികളെക്കുറിച്ച് മേൽ സൂചിപ്പിച്ച പോലുള്ള പക്ഷികളുടെ വിന്യാസത്തെക്കുറിച്ചോ, അവയുടെ എണ്ണത്തെക്കുറിച്ചോ നമുക്ക് അറിവ് കുറവാണ്.

ഈ ഒരു സാഹചര്യത്തിലാണ് നാട്ടുപക്ഷികളെ നിരീക്ഷിക്കുകയും അവയുടെ വിന്യാസവും, എണ്ണവും കൃത്യമായി രേഖപ്പെടുത്തുകയും ചെയ്യുന്നതിലേക്കായി ഒരു പഠനത്തിന്റെ ആവശ്യകതയെക്കുറിച്ച് കേരളത്തിലെ പക്ഷി നിരീക്ഷരുമായി ചർച്ചകൾ നടത്തുകയും അത്തരം ഒരു പരിപാടി നടത്താനാണ് തീരുമാനിക്കുകയും ചെയ്തത്. പ്രസ്തുത പരിപാടിക്ക് സംസ്ഥാന വനംവകുപ്പ് സോഷ്യൽ ഫോറസ്റ്ററി വിഭാഗത്തിന്റെ അക്രമശിത്ത സഹായം ലഭിച്ചതിന്റെ അടിസ്ഥാനത്തിൽ വളരെ നല്ല രീതിയിൽ തന്നെ സംഘടിപ്പിച്ച് നടപ്പാക്കുവാൻ ആശിച്ചു. അങ്ങനെ പ്രഥമ സംസ്ഥാന നാട്ടുപക്ഷി നിരീക്ഷണ പരിപാടി/ Common Bird Monitoring Programme (CBMP) 2014 February മാസത്തിൽ നടത്തുകയുണ്ടായി. പ്രസ്തുത പരിപാടിയുടെ മറ്റൊരു പ്രത്യേകത അത് അന്താരാഷ്ട്രതലത്തിൽ സംഘടിപ്പിക്കപ്പെടുന്ന Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) എന്ന പരിപാടിയോട് ചേർന്ന് നടപ്പാക്കുവാൻ സാധിച്ചു എന്നതാണ്. 2014 ഫെബ്രുവരി 14 മുതൽ 17 വരെ നടത്തിയ നാട്ടുപക്ഷി നിരീക്ഷണ പരിപാടിയിൽ പങ്കെടുക്കുവാനായി സംസ്ഥാനത്തിന്റെ വിവിധ ഭാഗങ്ങളിലുള്ള പക്ഷി നിരീക്ഷണ വിവർത്തന വുമായി ബന്ധപ്പെട്ട സംഘടനകളും, വ്യക്തികളും മുന്നോട്ട് വരികയും CBMP-2014 ഒരു വൻവിജയമാക്കി മാറ്റുകയും ചെയ്തു.

സർവ്വേ രീതി

ഒരു വ്യക്തിയോ, രണ്ടോ-മൂന്നോ പേരടങ്ങുന്ന ടീമോ ആയി സർവ്വേയിൽ പങ്കെടുക്കാം. അവർക്ക് 2014 ഫെബ്രുവരി 14 മുതൽ 17 വരെ തീയതികളിൽ കേരളത്തിന്റെ നാട്ടിൻ പുറങ്ങളിൽ എവിടെ വേണമെങ്കിലും നിരീക്ഷണം നടത്താം. നിരീക്ഷണം ചുരുങ്ങിയത് 15 മിനിറ്റുകളിലും ദൈർഘ്യമുണ്ടാവണം. അത്തരത്തിലുള്ള 15 മിനിറ്റ് ദൈർഘ്യമുള്ള ഏതു സ്ഥലത്തെയും പക്ഷികളുടെ ലിസ്റ്റ് (checklist) വേണമെങ്കിലും ഒരാൾക്ക് ശേഖരിക്കാം. പ്രസ്തുത സർവ്വേയിൽ രേഖപ്പെടുത്തേണ്ടത് നിരീക്ഷിക്കുവാൻ തിരഞ്ഞെടുത്ത സ്ഥലം, തീയതി, 15 മിനിറ്റ് സമയത്തിൽ കണ്ടെത്തിയ പക്ഷികളുടെ ഇനം, എണ്ണം എന്നീ വിവരങ്ങളാണ്. പ്രസ്തുത വിവരങ്ങൾ പിന്നീട് 'www.eBird.org' എന്ന website ൽ upload ചെയ്യണം. ഇത്തരത്തിൽ ശേഖരിക്കുന്ന വിവരങ്ങൾ പിന്നീട് ശാസ്ത്രീയമായി വിശകലനം ചെയ്യുകയും നാട്ടുപക്ഷികളുടെ വിന്യാസവും, എണ്ണവും കൃത്യമായി തിട്ടപ്പെടുത്തുകയും ചെയ്യുന്നു. 2014 ഫെബ്രുവരി മാസം കൂടാതെ വീണ്ടും സെപ്റ്റംബർ മാസം 12 മുതൽ 15 വരെ കേരളത്തിൽ CBMP സംഘടിപ്പിക്കുകയുണ്ടായി. ഓണത്തിനോടനുബന്ധിച്ച് നടത്തിയതായതിനാൽ പ്രസ്തുത സർവ്വേയെ 'Onam Bird Count' എന്നാണ് ഞങ്ങൾ വിളിച്ചത്.

2014 ൽ നടത്തിയ രണ്ടു നാട്ടുപക്ഷി സർവ്വേകളുടെ പ്രധാന കണ്ടെത്തലുകൾ പട്ടികയിൽ കൊടുത്തിരിക്കുന്നു. ഏറ്റവും സർവ്വസാധാരണമായി കാണുന്ന പക്ഷികൾ-പനങ്കാക്ക, നാട്ടുമൈന, കരിങ്കുയിൽ, ചിന്നക്കുട്ടുറുവൻ, ആനറാഞ്ചി തുടങ്ങിയവയാണെന്ന് ഈ പഠനത്തിൽ നിന്നും മനസ്സിലാക്കുവാൻ സാധിച്ചു. 2014 ഫെബ്രുവരി സർവ്വേയിൽ 280 ഇനം പക്ഷികളെ (കേരളത്തിൽ കാണപ്പെടുന്ന പകുതിയിലധികം) കണ്ടെത്തിയപ്പോൾ സെപ്റ്റംബറിൽ 229 ഇനം പക്ഷികളെ കണ്ടെത്താനായി.



സർവ്വയിലെ പ്രധാന കണ്ടെത്തലുകൾ

		2014 Feb	2014 Sept
1	പേനകാക്ക	House Crow	55% 66
2	നാട്ടുമൈന	Common Myna	37 39
3	കരിങ്കുയിൽ	Common Koel	35 -
4	ചിനക്കുട്ടുറുവൻ	White-cheeked Barbet	31 22
5	ആനറാഞ്ചി	Black Drongo	30 26
6	വണ്ണാത്തിപ്പുള്ളി	Magpie Robin	29 -
7	അമ്പലപ്രാവ്	Blue Rock Pigeon	28 -
8	മീൻകൊത്തിചാത്തൻ	White-breasted Kingfisher	26 26
9	കുളക്കൊക്ക്	Pond Heron	25 32
10	ബലിക്കാക്ക	Jungle Crow	25 23
11	ഓലേത്താലി	Rufus Treepie	- 30
12	കൃഷ്ണ പരുന്ത്	Brahmini Kite	- 23
13	ചെറിയനീർക്കാക്ക	Little Cormorant	23%

ഡോ. പി.ഒ. നമീർ
സംസ്ഥാന കോ-ഓർഡിനേറ്റർ, ഹരിതപങ്കാളിത്ത പരിപാടി

ACTIVITIES OF WWF-INDIA KERALA STATE OFFICE

Meeting on Deep Sea Fishing and Shark Conservation

The State Director, attended the 'Workshop on Dr. Meenakumari Report on Deep Sea Fishing' organized by NFF, KSMTF and ADSGAF in Thiruvananthapuram on 16 Sept, 2014. The workshop also discussed on Shark Conservation.

Birding at Ashtamudi Lake



As follow-up of World Migratory Bird Day 2014 held at Kollam in May, the monthly birding at Ashtamudi Lake

was conducted on 15th September with the participation of 8 volunteers led by the Senior Education Officer. 32 species of birds were reported including migratory species. The birding of October was conducted on 25th with the participation of 9 volunteers. Thirty-seven species of birds were sighted including migratory species like Grey Plover, Lesser sand Plover and Common Sandpiper etc.

Ozone Day 2014

Senior Education Officer led a session titled “Ozone Story” at Kerala University College of Teacher Education, Kollam on 17th September 2014 in which around 120 Teacher Trainees from different subjects participated. An interactive quiz also was conducted in connection with this.

Friday Forum - September 2014



The second Friday Forum of this academic year was held at Museum Auditorium, Thiruvananthapuram on 19th September on the theme “Reduce and Manage Waste & Convert Waste to Wealth”. Sri. Shibu K. Nair, Programme Director of Zero Waste Programme of Thanal, Thiruvananthapuram led the session. The session was quiet interactive with around 120 school student’s participation from different schools.

Invited talk on Akashavani on India’s wildlife

The State Director was invited on 10 Sept, 2014 to give a special talk on All India Radio/ Akashavani on India’s Wildlife with special emphasis to Red Data List.

100% RE Project – Stakeholder Workshop at Palakkad



In continuation of the study titled ‘Kerala Going 100% RE by 2050’, as per the suggestions from the stakeholders,

similar study has been initiated for Palakkad District. The first Stakeholder Workshop was conducted at Palakkad on 16 Oct 2014. Around 30 participants attended in the half day workshop. The team from WWF-India consisting of Dr. TS Panwar, Ms. Jincy Joy and Mr. Renjan Mathew Varghese and from WISE Pune consisting of Mr. Suhas Tendulkar and Mr. Raiju John led the discussions and deliberations.



Ongoing project on Laterite Mining and its Environmental Impacts in Kerala

Now that the MoU for the GIS and Remote Sensing work component of the project has been signed and handed over to Geovin Solutions Pvt. Ltd., the data analysis part is on in full swing. The full data analysis for Varkala Taluk in Thiruvananthapuram District is being carried out with relevant spatial and non-spatial data compiled from various sources. Once this is finalized, the data collection for the other sites will also be carried out and the analysis completed within the project time frame of two years.

National Conservation Strategy and Action Plan for Marine Turtles

The Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change in association with Wildlife Institute of India organized the meeting on Marine Turtles at Kerala Forest Research Institute, Peechi, Thrissur on 19 Oct 2014. The State Director attended the meeting on behalf of WWF-India and contributed to the discussions and deliberations.

EH 2014 and CFL Distribution at Olathanni School



Further to Earth Hour 2014, in association with KSEB, EMC and AMAS, we distributed free CFLs to the school students from the economically backward families of Victory HSSS, Olathanni, Neyyattinkara. The event was attended by the

State Director. In continuation to this, a class on energy conservation is also being planned.



We have almost completed the distribution of 5000 CFLs provided to us jointly by KSEB and EMC. We have conducted around 10 CFL distribution events across Kerala in association with local partners. A brief report was prepared along with a photo gallery and submitted to KSEB, EMC, WWF-India Secretariat and others. Now we are giving a new request to the Chairman, KSEB to provide us with another set of 5000 or more CFLs and we mainly target to distribute the same among the plantation worker households in Munnar.

Wildlife Week



WWF-India, Kerala State Office put a stall in the Eco Fest organized by Periyar Tiger Reserve at Kumily from 2nd to 8th October with information panel boards on 'Biodiversity of Kerala and Endemics of Kerala'. The stall was visited by more than 2000 people. A session on 'Wildlife of Kerala' was delivered by Mr. A.K.Sivakumar, Senior Education Officer at SN College, Kollam on 10th October 2014 accompanied by a film show on 'Wildlife around us'

Teachers Training Workshop at Kottayam



A Teachers Training Workshop supported by CPREEC, Chennai was held at Mangalam College of Teacher Education, Ettumanoor, Kottayam on 8th October 2014 on the theme of 'Western Ghats'. The workshop was attended

by 41 Teachers from different schools of the district and also few from colleges. The workshop was inaugurated by Sri.Biju Varghese, Chairman, Mangalam Group of Educational Institutions. Sri. N. Radhakrishnan, Dy. Director of Wildlife Education, Project Tiger, Kottayam and Mr. A.K. Sivakumar, WWF-India led the sessions.



The TTW was organized at Mangalam College of Teacher Education on 9th October 2014 mainly targeting Teacher Trainees. The workshop had 120 Teacher Trainees as participants. The workshop was inaugurated by Prof. Jacob Kurian Onattu, Principal, Baselius College, Kottayam. The resource persons were Sri. Radhakrishnan and A.K. Sivakumar.



Friday Forum - October 2014



The Friday Forum of the month was held at Museum Auditorium, Thiruvananthapuram on 13th October 2014 with the theme 'Vegetable Garden - Home Grown Vegetables for Poison Free Food'. Smt.Bindu, Technical Officer, State Horticulture Mission, Thiruvananthapuram led the session. The session was quiet interactive with the active participation of around 150 school students from different schools in the City.

Nature Orientation Camp at Avalanche



Kerala State Office conducted a three day Nature Orientation Camp at Avalanche Forests of Nilgiris, Tamilnadu. Nine nature enthusiasts along with Mr. Sivakumar and two volunteers attended the camp. The scenic beauty of the high altitude shola forests and its biodiversity was thoroughly enjoyed by the team. They sighted many birds, butterflies, frogs, reptiles and mammals like Gaur, Sambar Deer, Wild Dog and Malabar Giant Squirrel.

Sunday Bird Walk



The monthly Sunday Bird Walk was held around Punchakkari wetlands on 26th October 2014 with the active participation of 9 birders. Around 42 species of birds were observed from the wetland including Grey Heron, Grey Wagtail and Pheasant tailed Jacana.

Felicitation of Wild Wisdom Quiz National Winners



Ms. Pooja and Mr. Aron Dev Jose of L'ecole Chempaka, Trivandrum who won the first prize in City level of Wild Wisdom 2014 emerged as the National level quiz winners held on 4th October at New Delhi. They were felicitated by WWF-India Kerala State Office in the school assembly on 15 Oct 2014. Mr. Renjan, State Director addressed the school gathering and gave away the mementos to the winners.

Swasraya Bharat Exhibition as part of SSM 2014



The Swadeshi Science Congress organized by Swadeshi Science Movement was held in Kasargod from 14-19 Nov, 2014 in association with Central University and CPCRI. An exhibition titled Swasraya Bharat was also organized and WWF was invited to put up our exhibition stall. Mr. Harish Kumar, Administrative Assistant and Mr. Visanth, Volunteer manned the stalls.

Brainstorming on ESD and its mainstreaming

With the objective of mainstreaming ESD concepts, tools and techniques into the mainstream education in Kerala, a brainstorming session was organized in the State Office in the afternoon of 13 October with a small group of participants. The suggestions and recommendations are being compiled and the same will be put into action in the coming days.

Common Bird Monitoring Programme

WWF-India, Kerala State Office coordinated the Common Bird Monitoring Programme (CBMP) in Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam and Pathanamthitta districts held from 12th to 15th September 2014 under the Green Partnership Programme. Senior Education Officer and Sri.C.Harikumar were the reviewers for these districts.

EDITORIAL BOARD

Mr. G. Vijaya Raghavan
Mr. Renjan Mathew Varghese
Mr. A.K. Sivakumar

Published by WWF-India, Kerala State Office, Moolavilakom, Vanchiyoor P.O., Thiruvananthapuram-695035
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