



World Pangolin Day

17th Feb. 2018

Sahyadri Nisarga Mitra



India

As per every year even this year Sahyadri Nisarga Mitra has decided to celebrate the “World Pangolin Day”. Because World Pangolin Day is an opportunity for pangolin enthusiasts to join together in raising awareness about these unique mammals. Pangolins are the only scaly mammals known to the world and are under tremendous threat for their secret killings and illicit trade of scales. It is known to be the most trafficked mammal internationally in the Illegal Wildlife Trade. Hence, in order to raise the awareness and to highlight its importance to the locals, World Pangolin Day held at Shringartali village on 17th February 2018. Sahyadri Nisarga Mitra, Maharashtra police and Maharashtra forest department jointly organized this event for Guhagar taluka in this year (Figure 1).



Figure 1: “World Pangolin Day 2018” Celebration at Shringaltali village, Taluka Guhagar.

The event started with a rally in which the active participants were the primary school students who walked the ways of villages with the slogans and posters depicting the theme “Save Indian Pangolin” (Figure 2). There are 100 students of standard 1st to 7th participated in the rally with the slogan ‘Save the Indian Pangolin’. The rally went around the entire village highlighting this message. The participants were informed about the Indian Pangolin found across the Konkan region and its conservation importance.



Figure 2: Students displaying the message for the conservation of the Indian Pangolin during the rally

On the occasion of world pangolin day, a drawing competition was held in Z.P. School chikhali, Taluka Guhaghar District Ratnagiri. Students actively participated in this competition and enjoyed a lot (Figure 3). They draw many pictures of pangolins and successfully with enthusiastic feel it was taken over.



Figure 3: Conducted Drawing Competition at Z.P. School, Chikhali, Taluka Guhaghar, District Ratnagiri.

The competition had two groups one of the students of 5th to 7th And over with students of 8th to 10th. On this day the prize distribution of drawing competition was conducted. The prizes are distributed throw the presented guest (Figure 4).



Figure 4: Drawing competition prize distribution

Sahyadri Nisarga Mitra, Maharashtra police and Maharashtra forest department jointly organized this event for Guhaghar taluka in this year. The village officials like sarpanch, police patil and tantamukti adhyaksha of every village of Guhaghar taluka are invited to this event. All villages of guhaghar taluka covered for this event. A pamphlet and paper bag providing the information and giving a conservation message was widely distributed amongst the members present during the event (Figure 5&6).



Figure 5 : A pamphlet designed in Marathi distributed for awareness generation



Figure 6 : paper bags distributed during the event.

In this event, Sahyadri Nisarga Mitra president Mr Bhau Katdare talk about the Indian pangolin and give the important information about Indian pangolin to the present peoples also give the guidance and share the present work of Sahyadri Nisarga Mitra and Maharashtra forest department on Indian pangolin in Konkan region. After that Deputy conservator of forest, Mr Jagtap sir also guided to peoples about their questions about pangolins and laws of wildlife protection act 1972. The Forest officer Mr Nilakh sir also talk about Indian pangolin and elaborated the forest department work about Indian pangolin on Konkan region (Figure 7).



Figure 7: Mr Bhau Katdare and Dfo. Jagtap sir talk about pangolin and guided to present villagers.

At the end of all of us took an oath to save the Indian pangolins.

The cooperation extended by Mr. Vikas Jagtap (Deputy Conservator of Forest), Mr. Nilakh (Forest officer of Guhaghar) ,Mr. Sudhakar Khetale, Mr. Shardul Guruji made this programme a huge success. Thanks due to the principle of Z. P. School of chikhali and the entire staff of the school.

SNM's team comprising of Mr. Bhau Katdare (President, SNM), Mr. Nitin Narvekar, Mr. Gajanan Surve, Mr. Maurya Sadwilkar, Mr. Sagar Redij, Mr. Soham Ghorpade and Mr. Prasad Gond contributed for the running the entire programme smoothly.