



Since 1992
Sahyadri Nisarga Mitra,
Chiplun

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Chiplun

Annual Report

2019-20



Sahyadri Nisarga Mitra

Acknowledgement

Sahyadri Nisarga Mitra is thankful to Forest Department, Maharashtra and also Police Department for extending support in all our programs. We would also like to thank The Habitats Trust & all the Schools for their support in the Conservation of Indian Pangolin through community participation in Konkan region of Western Ghat Maharashtra India project. Global Giving has been supportive in Eye donation, Body donation, Save Pangolin project and My Jungle.

In addition, the local Gram Panchayats in each village, villagers and all the volunteers have worked to ensure the large-scale success of conservation programs. We would like to thank gram panchayat and villagers of Dugve for their support in Khavlotsav a one of a kind event held by SNM to spread awareness about pangolin. The contribution of Dr. Badrish Kulkarni and Saba software in our projects was also tremendously important for us. The support of individual donors has always been the back bone of our activities. Thanks to all known and unknown supporters.

About Us

Sahyadri Nisarga Mitra (SNM) was established when a few likeminded people wanted to do more than sigh away their pangs of conscience about the rampant abuse of nature. The day was 12th February 1992. Out of the brain storming of these individuals, the aim to "Broaden the vision of nature conservation" was taken up as the mission of this organization. 'ठेवू दूरदृष्टी रक्षू निसर्ग सृष्टी' (For a better future, we shall protect the nature) was the slogan taken up and till date, SNM has been continuously striving to live up to the slogan. Conservation of Indian Swiftlets, White-bellied sea eagles, Oriental Dwarf Kingfisher, Mangroves was the areas where we worked in the initial days. We have built a strong base of volunteers spread across Raigad, Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg districts of Maharashtra. We are also focused on continuously expanding the network of volunteers across the coastal region of Maharashtra. SNM is also active for conducting environmental outreach programmes for the general public belonging to all age – group

Official Name	Sahyadri Nisarga Mitra
Year of Establishment	1992
Official Address	11, United park, Near Swami Samarth Math, Markandi, Chiplun, District- Ratnagiri, Maharashtra, India.
Official Phone	02355-253030 / 9423831700
Name of the President	Bhau Katdare
Official Website	www.snmcpn.org
Official email	sahyadricpn@gmail.com
Registration no	F/1077/RTG

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Major Conservation initiatives initiated by the organization

❖ **In-Situ Conservation of Indian Pangolin through Community Participation.**

Indian Pangolin (*Manis crassicaudata*) is the lesser known endangered mammal species found across Indian subcontinent. Indian Pangolin is listed in appendix I species in CITES and Schedule I species under wildlife protection act 1972, India. Pangolin is the most trafficked mammal species in the world for the delicacy of pangolin meat and scales used in traditional Chinese medicine.

Sahyadri Nisarga Mitra (SNM) initiated In-Situ conservation of Indian Pangolin through community participation in Konkan region of Northern Western Ghat, Maharashtra, India.

• **Education awareness outreach within Stakeholder**

- SNM through official communication with the heads of 478 villages outreach mass awareness across Dapoli, Mandangad and Sangameshwar block in Ratnagiri district of Konkan region, Maharashtra.
- SNM had collected baseline data through Random Sample Questionnaire survey and Camera trap survey across 478 villages in Northern Western Ghat of Maharashtra.
- SNM deployed 250 specially designed ecofriendly information awareness board to outreach mass awareness across Dapoli, Mandangad, Lanja, Rajapur and Ratnagiri 5 blocks in Konkan region, Maharashtra.
- SNM had educated and sensitized 33 Educational institutions through various medium lectures, presentations and documentary across Dapoli, Mandangad, Sangameshwar, and Lanja in Ratnagiri District.
- SNM conducted educational competition such as quiz, essay writing and drawing competition in 33 educational institutions. SNM appreciated participated students through rewards and certificate.
- SNM distributed Pictorial story book on Indian Pangolin in 3575 Educational institute across the Ratnagiri district of Maharashtra.
- SNM conducted its first regional Pangolin festival to outreach mass awareness on the occasion of World Pangolin Day. Pangolin festival was celebrated in Dugve village of Chiplun block, Ratnagiri district. SNM established human-pangolin religious relationship. Pangolin festival is first festival celebrated in the world and villagers celebrated festival in traditional form worshipping pangolin as god and performed traditional dance and songs.
- SNM had participated in village level gramsabha meeting across more than 25 villages to outreach and sensitize stakeholder villagers, and tribals community.
- Training workshop is conducted for stakeholder such as local community, tribal and frontline law enforcement agencies.
- SNM conducted 56 night patrolling with local field guide, SNM identified pangolin activity pocket in Dapoli, Mandangad and Sangameshwar.

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Awareness board deployed across the region



Education lecture to sensitize Students



Community meeting to sensitize villager



Pangolin replica taken to village deity Waghjai Temple



The Saint of the villages worshipped Pangolin

• Camera trap Survey and Field Survey

- SNM in 2019-20 had deployed 38 camera traps to document and collect data on species ecology, presence and behavior in wild across the region.
- SNM conducted random transect field survey across Dapoli, Mandangad, Sanagameshwar and Lanja across 4 blocks of Ratnagiri district.
- SNM had collected field data during field survey of 104 days such as direct sighting and indirect sign of the species such as scat, living or resting burrow, scratches etc.

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- SNM had completed 5426 camera days, total 11157 photos 5653 videos data were retrieved from deployed camera traps across the region.
- SNM found presence of pangolin through camera trap 196 photos and 55 videos evidence of the pangolin across the region.
- The data further helps to understand pangolin behavior and ecology which contribute to streamline future conservation of the species.
- Scat sample of the species were collected during field survey and is in further process to understand feeding ecology of the species and prey preference.



Camera trap deployed near pangolin living burrow



Camera trap deployment during field survey.



Scat Sample collected during field Survey



Indian Pangolin resting burrow observation

• Conservation outputs

- SNM established Human-Pangolin religious relationship and protected species through community participation in Chiplun region understanding human religious perspective in conservation.
- Pangolin presence across the region and pangolin activity pocket helps to understand species ecology, behavior and monitoring reduce illegal activity poaching and trafficking.
- Community sensitized and participated in conservation, total 15 pangolin were rescued by the local community and released in wild in collaboration with forest department.

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Indian Pangolin in Camera trap



Rescued India Pangolin released in wild

❖ Alternate Sustainable livelihood

SNM initiated alternate sustainable livelihood for the local community, farmer and tribal to achieve sustainable conservation in the region.

• Apiculture and Agriculture

- The honeybees are most important and play very vital role pollination through which is responsible for the production world's major foods and fruits.
- Native honeybees are facing major threat due to loss of habitat, use of pesticide in agriculture, and chemical industrial development.
- SNM found apiculture is the sustainable way of conservation and livelihoods within community and tribal.
- SNM educated and sensitized community locals, tribals, youngster and women everyone conservation of native honeybee, its importance and economical values.
- SNM conducted Apiculture and agriculture workshop and training for local community, farmers and tribals across Kasar-Kolvan, Panhali, Kudawale, Vatul, Veer, and pur village in Ratnagiri district.
- SNM had conducted live training session of wild bee native honey bee *Apis cerena* species relocation into hive box.
- SNM had provided honeybee box and native honeybee colony to the villagers and tribal community.



Apiculture workshop for community



Training translocation of *Apis cerena* sp. into hivebox

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- **Conservation output**

- Community participated in conservation of native honeybees and alternate sustainable livelihood.
- Farmers benefited through pollination service and pure organic raw honey.
- Local and tribal generate sustainable livelihood participation in conservation of local biodiversity.
- Farmers sensitized new and economical methodology of farming which is economical sustainable.



Local villager handling honeybees hive box



Apiculture Training to local villagers

- ❖ **Home Stay Eco-tourism –**

SNM had explored the region intensively and found few places to established Home-stay ecotourism in the region to promote eco-tourism and wildlife conservation through sustainable livelihood.

- SNM had explored region to establish Home-stay based ecotourism in the region and involve community in conservation.
- SNM established home stay and field guide in Choravane, Veer and Panhali village across the region.
- SNM conducted hospitality and nature guide workshop and training in the region.
- SNM provided social platform on the website of SNM to outreach community about Homestay and location.
- SNM through local news media advertised about location importance of location and wildlife to outreach within community.

Home stay Link - <https://www.snmcpn.org/homestay>

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❖ My Jungle

Deforestation in the region was observed over the course of time period which is responsible for loss of habitat of wild species and contributes to global warming, climate change. SNM had initiated My – Jungle participatory forest conservation.

- SNM had planted approximately more than 275 native trees in the foothills of Sahyadri Mountain ranges.
- SNM educated sensitized community about tree plantation important ecological roles of native tree plants in the ecosystem.
- Children, Youngster, women, local and tribal community participated in conservation through native tree plantation.
- Local communities regularly take care of planted trees from watering to natural organics pesticides and fertilizers, removal of weed.
- Community takes care of planted trees across the region which increased the survival rate of the planted trees across the region.



Tree plantation at foothills of the STR



Local community participated in tree plantation

❖ Health

SNM is actively worked in community health and always be the part of the community centric social activity across the region. SNM had also initiated Eye Donation and Body donation understanding the importance of health and community suffering from the major health issues.

- SNM educated and sensitized community about eye and body donation and importance in social cause in health sector.
- SNM sensitized community about donated eyes or body useful for someone.
- Body donations done – 1, Eye Donations done - 2

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Appeal

It is not possible to complete these projects without donations. SNM appeals donors to check the details on the website and contribute generously towards a noble cause. Donations made within India will be entitled for IT exemption under 80G. Foreign donations are now accepted. Kindly call us for the details.

Donations

For Online Donation visit :

Indian Doners : <https://www.payumoney.com/paybypayumoney/#/142123>

Account holder's name: Sahyadri Nisarga Mitra (for Indian donors only)

Name of Bank: Bank of India, Chiplun	Name of Bank: Bank of Maharashtra, Chiplun
Account Number: 141110110000077	Account Number: 20061344941
IFSC: BKID0001411	IFSC: MAHB0000296