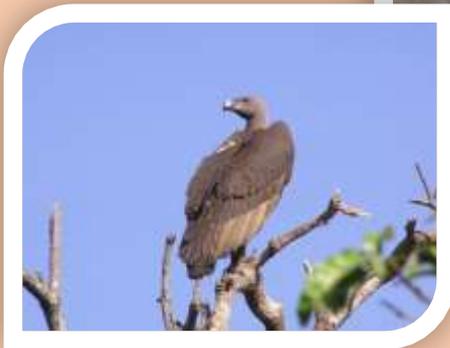




Sahyadri Nisarga Mitra,
Chiplun

Annual Report

2018-19



Acknowledgement

Sahyadri Nisarga Mitra is thankful to Forest Department, Maharashtra and also Police Department for extending support in all programs. We would also like to thank ICICI Bank Pvt. Ltd., BNHS & all the Schools for their support in the E-mammal 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. The contribution of Agriculture Department, Filmcity Corporation, Sevavardhini & Dr. Badrish Kulhalli as well as GIZ, Ashirvadam Trust, Saba software, Maharashtra State Board of Secondary and Higher Secondary Education, WCT 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 – groups.

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.snmcpcn.org
Official email	sahyadricpn@gmail.com
Registration no	F/1077/RTG

Major Initiatives and Conservation activities initiated by the organisation

❖ Protection and Conservation of Pangolins

SNM had set up more than 40 Cameras, completing 4381 camera days, and for 21 times they have captured the images of Pangolin successfully. The NGO has been selected for The Habitats Trust Grant in lesser Known Species category from 700 NGOs throughout India. They have successfully created awareness drives through 300 awareness Boards along with the help of pamphlets. The World Pangolin Day was celebrated at Devrukh of Sangameshwar Block in Ratnagiri District. The Awareness workshops were arranged in Dapoli and Mandangad Block. Meetings were also organized with the tribal Katkari community. A story book supported by the forest department was released 'गुपित खवले मांजराचं' by Bhau Katdare and around 7500 copies were distributed. The 'Khawalu' mascot was also initiated to attract people towards the species.



World Pangolin Day Celebration

Since 2016, SNM instigated Indian Pangolin Conservation through community participation in Konkan region of Maharashtra. Each year from 2016 SNM celebrate world pangolin day with new concept and ideas to raise voice for the conservation of the species in the region through community support. SNM celebrated World Pangolin day 2019 as follows:-

- ✓ Awareness in schools and school students take initiative for species conservation and raise awareness voice in the region through Rally.



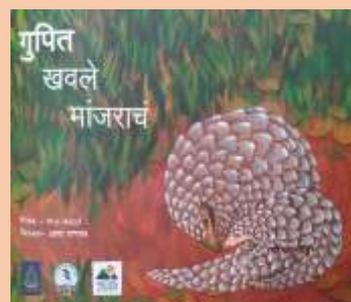
- ✓ School student Rally to raise the voice for the conservation of the Indian Pangolin.



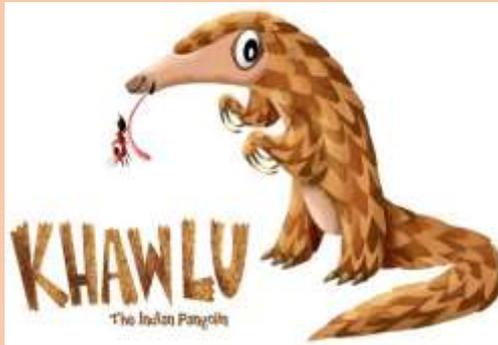
- ✓ Awareness through various art forms.
- ✓ Prize distribution among participated schools and colleges in Essay writing, Drawing and Power point presentation competition on Indian Pangolin.



- ✓ Publication and releasing Pictorial story book on Indian pangolin in local language (Marathi).



- ✓ Release of Khawalu (Indian Pangolin) Mascot to raise conservation of - species nationally and globally.



- ✓ Short Film on Indian Pangolin in local language (Marathi) to raise awareness in the region about species severity the link of the movie is given below.

❖ Alternate Livelihood

Beekeeping Workshops were arranged to introduce Modern Beekeeping techniques among local stakeholders. Around 10 Honeybee Boxes were provided to local Beekeeping Enthusiasts. SNM is also inspiring locals for collection of NTFP's and eco-tourism based sustainable livelihood.



❖ E-Mammals

SNM in collaboration with Bombay Natural History Society and with the financial support of ICICI Bank Ltd. Has successfully implemented E-mammal – A Citizen Science Project since February 2017 to January 2019. The project aims to promote scientific understanding among school children between the ages of 11 to 14 through the lens of applied scientific research in middle schools, for which 20 rural/tribal schools across seven districts located in the Sahyadri region are involved. The project involves use of camera traps to document animal population sizes, animal diversity and habitat use in their corresponding regions. A state level Photography exhibition held at Chiplun where 20 schools participated with their trap camera photographs. Students from each school presented summary through PowerPoint Presentation. The students presented a glimpse of all the activities conducted throughout the project duration. They also demonstrated installation of trap cameras in the wild. The students also summarized their experiences on enhancement of knowledge and other technical skills.



A post-project assessment survey was conducted in each of the schools. Each of the schools was then visited by the project staff to address the issues faced by the schools while deploying camera traps.



Since, it was not possible to deploy cameras and record activities during the monsoons, the schools were suggested to take them off and keep them safely. Meanwhile, various competitions and awareness activities were conducted during this season. A drawing competition was conducted for the students of standard 8th and 9th. The theme of this competition was 'Wildlife around my neighbourhood'. An essay writing competition was also held. The topic for this was 'The Wild Animal that I have seen'.

About 1994 school children with their teachers are enthusiastically participating in this project. A deployment datasheet is collected from all the participant schools to upload the photos online. The photos captured by the trap cameras were uploaded on the e-mammal website, which forms the repository which is being used by global scientists.



In 2019, SNM directly engaged with 2000 students of 20 schools from 7 districts of Maharashtra. 24 mammalian species were captured in cameras including top predators like Tiger, Leopards, Sloth Bears and Wild Dogs. Around 3.5 lakh photographs were taken in total. Various activities like Nature Trail, Drawing, Quiz and Essay Competition were conducted to encourage the young minds towards Nature Conservation.

❖ **Agriculture**

The organization has provided on-field support to farmers working with innovative agricultural practices. It has also carried out, experimental farming of Turmeric and Rice in Chiplun, to study profitability and various factors related with it.



❖ **Health- Eye donations and body donations**

In India 1% of blind people are bilaterally corneal blind out of which only approximately 60,000 can be delivered vision by penetrating keratoplasty. Rest 50 % can be provided vision due to associated involvement of posterior segment. Considering annual addition of 20,000 fresh cases of corneal blindness, maximum utilization of collected corneas and back log of corneal blindness, India needs approximately 140,000 eye donors as of today against 40,621 cornea collections as per National Programme for Control of Blindness's Survey. This year 3 eye donations and 3 body donations have been carried out



The following projects were also undertaken by the Organisation:-



respectively.

Gramsabha Meeting with villagers to raise awareness



Interaction with local villagers



Meeting with education department officers Ratnagiri District.



Meeting with the villagers



Camera Trap Deployment.



Fresh Scat Sample collection from the burrow of the species.

