

Education reports from Indian Wildlife Week 2010

Editor's Note: We apologise for delaying these education reports. We had full issues of other important articles and somehow postponed these. Perhaps readers can benefit by getting ideas for upcoming education events, such as World Environment Day June 5.



Teacher's group explaining illustration on Climate Change mitigation



Another group works on illustration depicting biodiversity loss



Introduction of Live More Simply packet

WLW 2010, Save Biodiversity and Beat the Heat – LMS Report

During WLW2010 a one day programme was conducted for 30 National Green Corps teachers of Madurai at Capron Hall Girl's High School on 06 October 2010. The programme was enhanced with complimentary educational packets entitled Save Biodiversity and Beat the Heat – Live More Simply supplied by Zoo Outreach Organisation, India. The importance of biodiversity and its kingdoms were explained which was followed by a game about the five kingdoms with instructional cards. The participants were taught that the invertebrates are the indicators of healthy environment. Descriptions of vertebrates were clear and could be understood; the students enjoyed knowing more about the variety of species. E.O. Wilson's Circle of Life helped understand the sheer immensity of life forms. Participants were divided into groups relating to Biodiversity Loss and Climate Change. After going through Gandhi's concepts from the booklet they drafted points about how to "beat the heat" by greening the mind, avoiding plastics and saving paper and water. The Climate Change group planned for the next 5 years by drawing 2 charts pertaining to 2010 and 2015 describing the implementation of the new technology. The Biodiversity loss group studied about the richness of biodiversity in a pond and its present condition. They enacted role-play on the theme by wearing masks of different characters in the lives as well as the greenhouse guardian and greenhouse ghost, the sun, rain, animal etc. Finally, environmental games were conducted. They left the campus with a future plan to spread the message to the students and the fellow teachers throughout the academic year. Submitted by Jessie Jeyakaran, Chennai. E-mail: jessiejey@rediffmail.com

Wildlife Week 2010 – Exhibition OCPM Girls Hr. Sec. School, Madurai

An exhibition was arranged in OCPM Girls HSS on 07 October 2010. The Junior Red Cross, National Green Corps, the NSS, and the Guide students explained about various endangered animals. Nearly 10 representatives of each group along with the incharge teachers have taken the initiations. Co-ordinator explained

concept of Save Biodiversity and Beat the Heat, of LMS as well as biodiversity loss and climate change. Gandhiji, the father of our Nation is the role model to show how to lead life in a simple way. On other topics, JRC students explained elephant etiquette. The NGC students focused on endangered species of monkeys specially the hoolock gibbon. The NSS discussed bats and frogs. The guide students explained monkey manners to avoid injury from free ranging monkeys. The onlookers were thrilled to know more about the wildlife and especially about Live More Simply. Submitted by Jessie Jeyakaran, Chennai. E-mail: jessiejey@rediffmail.com

Celebration of World Animal Day, 2010 at Lahore Zoo, Pakistan

Lahore Zoo is one of the oldest zoos of Asia and first zoo of Pakistan, working for animal welfare and public awareness since its inception. Zoo Management has always been arranging different animal based activities through its zoo education & awareness programme to develop a close link among the visitors. The Zoo Management arranged campaign to raise awareness in masses "SAY NO TO PLASTIC BAGS" at Lahore Zoo on World Animal Day, so that we can provide better living environment to our inhabitants. Plastic shopping bag is an environmental plaque, its average use is 5 minutes but it takes 1000 years for recycling. World Animal Day is celebrated all over the World for animal love and welfare. On this day Lahore Zoo Management decided to make Lahore zoo plastic free environment friendly zoo. Zoo management took many steps for its practical implementation i.e. affixing of informational boards on Deer's Cages, announcement through public address system, exchange of visitors' plastic bag with paper bag and arrangement of daily student talks regarding the lethal effect of its use by Zoo Education Officers. The main theme of this campaign was to say no to the plastic bags in the territory of Lahore Zoo, to ensure the pollution free environment for the betterment of the animals. The use of plastic bags in Lahore zoo is completely banned. In the end, participants committed not to use plastic bags in future at Lahore zoo for saving the lives of endangered animals at Lahore zoo. Submitted by: Bushra Nisar Khan, Education Officer, Lahore Zoo, Pakistan. Email: bushrank@yahoo.com



Chief guest exchanges paper bags for plastic bags



Animal enclosure decorated with children's drawings



Students say no to plastic bags



Explaining and demonstrating ZOO educational materials

was held on 7-10-10 at the same school and 32 students participated. Bicycle race for boys and girls and Tug of war was organized on 1-11-10. Procession was held on 3-11-10 and 8 Eco Development Committees participated.

Concluding ceremony of Wildlife Week 2010 celebration at the State level was held on 3-11-10 at Sepahijala Wildlife Sanctuary in which Hon'ble Minister for Forests etc was the Chief Guests and PCCF (T) and Chief Wildlife Warden, Tripura along with other dignitaries were present. Above all, celebration of wildlife week 2010 at Sepahijala generated huge awareness to motivate the local people for conservation of forest & wildlife. Submitted by: *Ajit Kumar Bhowmik, Director, Sepahijala Zoo, Tripura. Email: bhowmik_ak@yahoo.com*



Hon'ble Forest Minister releasing Hoolock Gibbon posters

Celebration of Wildlife Week in PCMC Zoo, Pune, Maharashtra

A series of different workshops and lectures were held at Nisargakanya Bahinabai Choudhary Pranisangrahalaya, (PCMC Zoo), Pune on the occasion of Wildlife Week 2010. On 5 October, a workshop was held for snake-friends and wildlife enthusiasts in the city. Nearly 40 snake-friends participated in this programme. Dr. Satish Gore, Veterinary Officer, PCPC, Dr. Pawan Salve, Medical Officer, PCMC and Mr. Pravin Ladkat, Executive Engineer inaugurated this workshop. The program was convened by Surendra Shelake. Dr. Mayri Panse, renowned wildlife filmmaker gave plenary talk on Effects of climate change on biodiversity. Dr. Pawan Salve discussed the sustainable lifestyle for conservation of biodiversity. Mr. Anil Khaire, Zoo Director spoke on Snake diversity and effect of habitat loss on snakes.

Sepahijala Wildlife Sanctuary & Zoological Park celebrates Wildlife Week

Wildlife Week 2010 was celebrated unlike previous year at Sepahijala involving the school students/public, panchayats, eco-development committees with following events and activities: Pravat Feri processions were held on 4 October 2010 in 6 panchatyats. About 3000 students took part in this procession. A talk on wildlife conservation was organized at Baidhyardighi High School on 5-10-10 for 500 students and teachers. And there was great impact and awareness. Division level debate competition was held in the same school on the subject- Is wildlife conservation compatible to development? Division level quiz competition was held on 6-10-10 at Charilam HS School and 40 students participated. Sit and Draw competition



Snake Friends with Climate Change masks

He also guided on safe measures of rescuing snakes. Dipak Sawant did the compering. Mr. Dilip Kamat gave vote of thanks. On 7 October, 50 students from Kamalnayan Bajaj High School participated in a workshop on Climate change and Biodiversity. All the participants visited the zoo under guidance of Dipak Sawant and Priti Bangal followed by a talk on Climate change and biodiversity by Dipak. Children were stunned to understand that their existence is dependent on biodiversity, and if they do not act today; their own children will have to see these animals in pictures only. At the end of the session, the students were asked to prepare a drama, based on their learning of the day. Students performed this drama using materials provided by the Zoo Outreach Organization. Mr. Anil Khaire concluded the programme. Submitted by Dipak Sawant and Priti Bangal for Anil Khaire, PCMC. Email: pcmzoo2004@yahoo.com

Wildlife Week Celebration by CEE, Madhya Pradesh

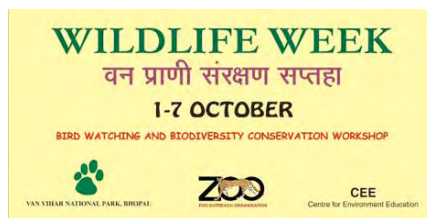
CEE, Madhya Pradesh observed wildlife week with Van Vihar National Park where it was held and WWF India with education materials support from ZOO Outreach organization.

The theme was "Environment and Wildlife Conservation". The workshop was inaugurated by Mr. Ramesh K. Dave, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Madhya Pradesh. Different presentations on wildlife and



Guiding participants on Bird watching

environment were delivered by the resource persons. Mr. Dharmaraj Patil, CEE delivered the presentation of Biodiversity. As it is known that the year 2010 is celebrated as International Year of Biodiversity, so it is quite important to understand the biodiversity of India and the role in the ecosystem and importance to conserve them. On 4 October, a workshop for teachers was organized. The chief guest of the workshop was Dr. H.S. Pabla PCCF Wildlife, MP. The theme of the workshop was same as for the Press and Media. The additional presentation was given on Bear Rescue



Centre at Van Vihar by Dr. S.S. Rajpoot CF, Bhopal Circle. Presentation on biodiversity by Mr. Dharmaraj Patil was very informative and attractive. The teachers were very attentive to hear and jot down all the information. Mr. Joseph Kujur, Programme Officer, CEE participated as a resource person in Satpura Tiger Reserve's wildlife week programme on 06 October. He delivered a talk on wildlife conservation to over 150 students. The resource material received from ZOO Outreach Organisation, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu on Biodiversity and Wildlife as Save Biodiversity! & Beat the heat, Diversity of Primates! Amphibian- An Art Aark, etc. were explained and distributed to the participants during the wildlife week. Submitted by: Dilip Chakravarthy, CEE, Madhya Pradesh. Email: dilip.chakravarty@ceeindia.org

Wildlife Week at Jodhpur, Rajasthan

To learn about wildlife and to instill awareness on wildlife & nature conservation, Wildlife Week is celebrated from 1-7 October every year. Environmental education, awareness and training plays a significant role in encouraging and enhancing people's participation in activities aimed at conservation, protection and management of the environment. To achieve above goal and make awareness on wild life conservation, we conducted several activities and programmes during Wildlife Week which includes debate competition, essay competition, quiz competition, street plays, and creativity workshop for specially challenged children and for children from slum area & bird watching camp, etc. On 2nd Oct 2010 a quiz competition was conducted for Graduate and Post Graduate students at Jodhpur (Jai Narain Vyas University) on forest, wildlife & nature. The main objective of the programme was to motivate youngsters with respect to biodiversity conservation. Next programme was a discussion on 'Conservation of Wild life in Thar Desert' in which 17 research scholars of Zoology Department participated. On 4th Oct. 2010, a debate was organized with Samvedana Seva Sansthan (NGO- Save Wildlife) between five schools in Jodhpur. On 5

October 2010, debate was held for college students on the topic 'Role of National parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries in Wildlife Conservation'. Dr. L.S. Rajpurohit (Assoc. prof.) gave a lecture on non-human primates. On 6-7 October children play was conducted in the public park and students from colleges/schools, their parents and public watched this play. Submitted by: Goutam Sharma, JNV University, Jodhpur, Rajasthan. Email: gautam_234746@yahoo.co.in

'Live more simply' to Save biodiversity and beat the heat programme at Assam

Training on Habitat Management and Wildlife Conservation was conducted by the Wildlife Areas Development and Welfare Trust in association with Assam Forest School, Jalukbari, Guwahati from 28-30 October, 2010. First two days were invested on habitat management principles for wildlife conservation and the last day was dedicated to climate change and its ramifications. A number of 57 foresters were the trainees from different forest divisions of Assam. The training was conducted at Assam Forest School and



Foresters playing Climate Change games with spectacle mask

Assam State Zoo. Dr. Surajit Baruah, State Coordinator of Assam and Arunachal Pradesh of WWF- India presented global scenario of climate change and Dr. Jihosuo Biswas of Primate Research Center gave emphasis on the local climate change scenario. After regular lecture several activities related to climate change were carried out with the materials developed by Zoo Outreach Organization. In this programme two volunteers from CEE- Northeast also

took active part. We thank Zoo Outreach Organization for providing the educational kits. Submitted by: Jayanta Das, WADWT, Guwahati. Email: gibbonconservation@yahoo.com

Zoo Education Programme at Bhilai Zoo, Chhattisgarh

Zoo education programme was conducted on 8 October at the zoo for 300 students of Angel Valley School, Bhilai. The main objective of the zoo education programme was to create awareness among the students and public about the conservation of wildlife and environment. First the students were taken around the zoo and provided much information about the captive population, feeding, breeding habits, habitat and their future conservation. They also learnt about the environmental protection of the species and disruption of the human being for their habitat. The students learnt about the wildlife with entertainment. The zoo is the place where public, children can enjoy with learning. The more information and feeding aspects and role of the animals are given by N.K. Jain, Chief Veterinary Officer. Valuable information about the general conservation of wildlife, zoo animals and environment were given by T.S. Chhattri, AGM-Horticulture. Bear conservation, distribution, number of species available in the world was given by T. Kalaichelvan. The main reasons for declining bear species were also discussed. The students were taken oath by tying rakhi by each other to take care of wildlife and environment conservation in their lifetime, which conducted by the G.K. Dubey, Chief Veterinary Officer. This program was appeared in the local printed media both in Hindi and English. Submitted by: TS Chhattri AGM (Hort.) & Dr. T. Kalaichelvan Zoo Supervisor, Maitri Baag Zoo, Bhilai Email: tkchelvan@rediffmail.com



Kids rejoicing with different animal mask



Pledging to stop bears on the road

Wildlife Week 2010 Celebration at BITS-Pilani, Hyderabad, AP

The wildlife Week 2010 was celebrated at Birla Institute of Technology & Science (BITS-Pilani) Hyderabad Campus in conjunction with Gandhi Jayanthi celebrations on 2 October

2010. In order to educate the students from engineering, technology, science and management streams, ZOO Outreach Organisation was earlier contacted for the wildlife week education materials. The organizers have promptly sent the "Biodiversity Loss & Climate change" education

packets. The celebrations started with the students, faculty and staff offering floral tributes to Mahatma Gandhiji, which was followed by the recitation of "Raghupathi Raghava Rajaram" song by the students. Later sweets were distributed to all. Kannan Ramasamy, Faculty-in-charge, Community Welfare Division hosted the event. This was followed by the Wildlife Week celebrations. P. Sankar Ganesh, gave a talk on Biodiversity and Climate change with the presentation sent by ZOO Outreach. P.K. Thiruvikraman, Associate Professor, Department of Physics, gave a brief talk about climate change, particularly focusing on the



Participants of various streams with the ZOO education kits

book titled "An Inconvenient Truth" authored by Al Gore. This was followed by distribution of resource materials sent by ZOO Outreach to all participants and explained about the packet materials. After the Wildlife Week 2010 celebrations, a proposal was submitted to the Director, BITS-Pilani, Hyderabad Campus, to start an "EcoClub" in the campus. The students, faculty and staff thank ZOO Outreach for sending educational materials. Sincere gratitude to all sponsors of the education packet, including 2010 International Year of Biodiversity, Chester Zoological Gardens, Conservation Breeding-Specialist Group, Conservation International and UFAW. Submitted by: Dr. P. Sankar Ganesh, BITS-Pilani, Hyderabad. AP. Email: bitsangan@gmail.com

Ecofest 2010, Wildlife week celebrations at Kozhikode, Kerala
Narendran Trust for Animal Taxonomy, Dept. of Zoology, Zamorin's College jointly organized a quiz competition and an elocution competition for students at the college, Kozhikode 28-30 September in connection with the wildlife week, Ecofest 2010. Competitions on Biodiversity, Conservation, Climate change and Biodiversity loss were held. Educational materials were distributed and explained. Fifteen teams (3 members in a team) participated in the quiz competition and 8 students in the elocution competition on the topic "Climate change and Biodiversity loss". An Intercollegiate essay writing competition was also organized with students from Kozhikode. A one-day seminar was held at Seminar Hall 1



Students familiarizing with marine organisms at Gulf of Mannar Biosphere Reserve- holothurian and starfish



Participants who performed the drama



Talk on biodiversity values

October, with a talk by a noted expert in the field of Primate Ecology, Biodiversity, and Conservation, Sri. Abdul Riyas. He delivered a lecture on the values of biodiversity and conservation aspects, with emphasis on climate change and life of mammals. Prof. A. C. Pushpalatha, Head, Department of Zoology welcomed the gathering. The Principal, A. Sreedevi presided over the function. Students actively participated in the discussion with Sri. Riyas and also took an Oath to protect wildlife and nature. Prizes and certificates were distributed to the winning teams/individuals of the various competitions. We thankfully acknowledge Zoo Outreach Organization, Conservation Breeding Specialist Group, Conservation International, UFAW, and Chester Zoological Gardens for sponsoring the

education packets and for joining us in making the programme a grand success. A study trip, to Anamalai Tiger Reserve, Parambikulam Tiger Reserve and the Gulf of Mannar Biosphere Reserve, for the students of final year zoology was organised from 4-8th October 2010. Submitted by: Sudheer Kalathil, Zamorin's Guruvayurappan College, Kozhikode, Kerala. Email: sudheerkalathil@gmail.com