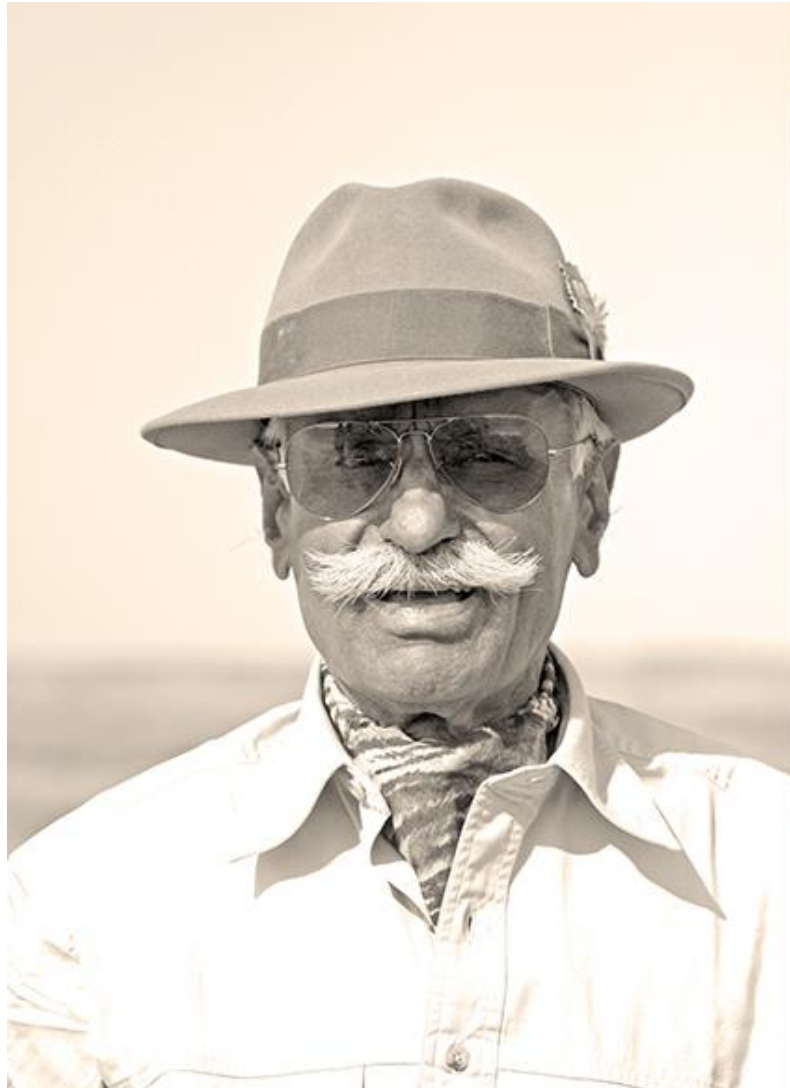


TIGER WATCH
ANNUAL REPORT
2013-14



Ranthambhore Road
Sawai Madhopur
Rajasthan- India
322001
www.tigerwatch.net





Ranthambhore became the place which brought the tiger to the consciousness of the people the world over.

Shri Fateh Singh Rathore brought glory to Ranthambhore, making it a celebrated tiger reserve. He served as the Field Director and was also the founder of the prestigious organisation - Tiger Watch.



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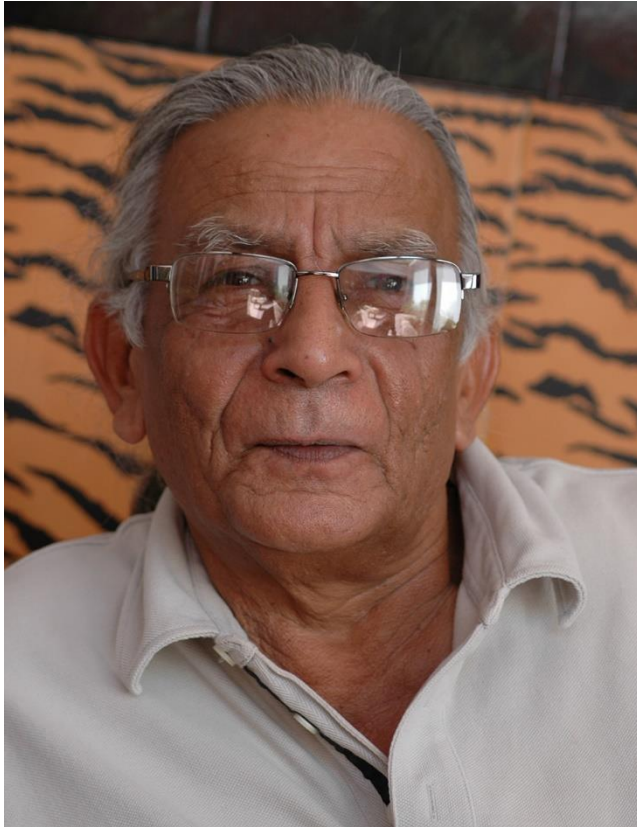


Tiger Watch

Tiger Watch is a non-governmental organization working since 1998 with the core objective of protection of wildlife in Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve in Rajasthan and adjoining areas. The organization was initiated due to the need of aid in difficult times at Ranthambhore in the 1990's. Mr. Fateh Singh Rathore's immense concern about Ranthambhore led him to start Tiger Watch even after his retirement as Field Director of the tiger reserve. His years of experience and support of other imperative conservationists led to formation of this NGO.



Chairman's Note:



Tiger Watch has been reaching towards a maturing stage in its journey, they have not only addressed issues pertaining to the tiger and Ranthambhore forest but also equally committed towards the issues of other species and their conservation like Gharial and wolf. Their involvement with community and locals helps in covering the aspect of wildlife conservation more holistically. The Mogya education program is now a flagship project and well respected in the circle of conservationists. Now we need to proceed towards partnering with the forest department and specialized institutes for more scientific research and operating models. With tremendous work going in and a steady rise in tiger population, it is time to gather as much strength & resources to continue the mission.

John Singh

Chairman

Tiger Watch



Secretary's Note:



Even after the passing of our beloved Fatehji, I am extremely glad to say that Tiger Watch is moving from strength to strength. In the last year Tiger Watch has seen many achievements, the main one being the Mogya Education Program. With the generous & consistent financial support of Iskandar Lalljee and hard work by Dharmendra this program is a living example of a far reaching & sustainable anti-poaching program. To add to this the amazing support extended by Goverdhan by providing the old Sevika building to house the boys has been the cherry on the cake. When I visited the Mogya boys this March, I truly felt that the boys themselves had turned a corner choosing a life far different from the one that their parents lived. The forest department joining hands with Tiger Watch is by itself a confirmation of the success of this program. My thanks to Mr. Y.K. Sahu for his kind support to further the viability of this program. True to the objects of Tiger Watch Anti-Poaching continues with enthusiastic fervor and that too not only for the tiger but all the other wildlife that fall under the umbrella of the tiger. As a pressure group we have brought to the notice of the forest department the involvement of its guards and I am sure this is going to go far in keeping them on their toes.

Keeping in mind the spirit of Fatehji dream, Dharmendra has added many firsts to the achievements of Tiger Watch. Fatehji always felt that the religious festivals brought an amazing pressure on the park. This time Tiger Watch has helped the Forest Department and ATREE to carry out the **Green Ganesha, Clean Ganesha** awareness workshop and I am

sure this is going to motivate people to follow their religious beliefs with a difference. I am also happy to say that on the death anniversary of Fatehji, Tiger Watch continues to build capacity into the forest department by giving awards, clothes and equipment just so that the Tiger and other wildlife can be safe at Ranthambhore. My gratitude to all donors who have generously donated for the Tiger cause, specially to Mrs. Faith Singh and our Chairman John Singhji to provide a generous donation of Rs. 1,00,000/- on a monthly basis to back the unflinching efforts of Dharmendra to save the Tiger and all other wildlife.

Ashutosh Mahadevia

Hon. Secretary



1. Mogya Education program:

Ranthambhore always stood up as temple of conservation and protection of its wildlife. An integral part of our work is anti-poaching, community reform and field research. Tiger Watch is regularly providing vital information to the forest department on poaching. Mogya's are the main hunting community living around Ranthambhore. Tiger Watch has been running a Mogya community boys hostel, since 2006, they are provided with free lodging, boarding, cloths, stationary & books and education fee. Many parents of the community now want their children to join this program; hence we extended the programs and have 40 kids today. The program was initially started with forest department's help; they provided us hostel facility in Phalodi range. The objective of this education program is:

- 1) To educate the Mogya children so as to enable them to earn a living in the future.
- 2) Creating awareness within the community.
- 3) Joining the Mogya community with the mainstream of society.
- 4) Keep them away from their traditional hunting work.

It is the 9th successful year of Mogya Education Program. This year Tiger Watch has 40 Mogya kids in the hostel. **Five kids are studying in the 10th class and three kids are in 11th class, two kids are now doing ITI (Industrial training).** 2-3 children were married off in spite of us counseling their families, their wives are here and we are trying to engage them at Dhonk (handicraft initiative), so they are getting basic on job learning in cushioned environment, yet are able to earn as they have now responsibilities on themselves. **5 of them are in Dhonk** and are earning from 2500 to 4200. These kids are not 10th pass, so it's not possible to send them to ITI, as minimum education for ITI is 10th pass. So in that sense Dhonk is a good option for them those are unable to pass 10th. We have to think for this segment also. We have to appreciate, where ever they are able to reach considering their past and backgrounds. The main objective of the program is to connect the Mogyas to mainstream societies and provide a respectful livelihood opportunity.



Tiger watch signed an MOU with Ranthambhore tiger conservation foundation (RTCF) of Forest Department for Mogya education program: An Memorandum of understanding has been signed between Forest department and Tiger Watch regarding support to Mogya Education program. The department will support this program for ten students with the budget of 3.5 lakh per year for next ten years. Field Director Mr. YK Sahu and Dharmendra Khandal have been signed on MOU behalf of the organizations. Mr. YK Sahu praised the efforts of Tiger Watch regarding Mogya education program.

Several organisation and individuals supporting the efforts of Mogya education program (MEP) of Tiger Watch:

1. Sud Chemie: This is the main supporter of MEP since three years. Now the program took shape just because of this group only. Sud Chemie's Mr. Iskander lalljee, is behind the education of 18 kids and other technical education of senior kids.
2. The Change foundation: This is a new supportive group for MEP, Dubai based CA Mr. Ajay Chopra started this organisation for various charity work in India. The foundation head Mr. Chopra visited our Mogya hostel and showed great interest in our endeavour. They ready to support ten Mogya kids for the study.
3. Ranthambhore tiger Conservation foundation (RTCF): this is a forest department foundation and happily supported Tiger Watch – MEP they will fund ten Mogya kids for next 10 years. Mr. YK Sahu- Chairman RTCF and CF-RTR is man behind this support.
4. Oikos is working us with since 3 years and they are conducting various workshops with Mogya students. Ms. Sonali Phadke and Ms. Ketaki Ghate coordinating these workshops very sincerely.
5. JM E' COLE: a Paris based education institute is the new supporter for our student program. This college is generating money and various other things for kids like cloths and shows etc. Their fund support is useful for the set up like computer and recreational visit. A student Sumati Jain is main force behind it.





Supporter of the Program:



**Ranthambhore
Forest
Department**





Skill training of Mogya at Dhonk



Related article:

Mogya and Kalbelia: Wildlife communities are gaining their pride back.....Dharmendra Khandal

(<http://dkhandals.com/community-stories/23-wildlife-communities-are-gaining-their-pride-back>)

Humans are in some way or another depended on animals, but then there are some communities who are completely depended on wild animals. A snake keeping community – called the Kalbeliya's and a traditional wild animals hunting community- Mogya's, both are mainly found in Rajasthan. After the wildlife protection laws of 1972 was introduced, their traditional professions turned illegal and the community began to get pushed in the shady corner of the society for their basic survival. The main stream societies started considering them as negative elements, especially the law makers and law implementers since then have been considering them as a threat for the declining wildlife and nature. On the other hand, the deep rooted culture and practices have never been discarded by the rural India, they have the same faith and cultural value in their society so their existence is largely unharmed; however lawmakers and wildlife class are always unhappy and over concerned about their traditional profession which can be a harm for the shrinking wildlife. Wildlife traders and increased international demand for wildlife body parts have surely turned them more treacherous towards wild animals, earlier they would hunt only what they needed but today there is no end to the need for a rich society which is demanding these wildlife articles from them, for this they may get peanuts from the middlemen dealing with them but that is another issue left to discuss. They are excellent wildlife trackers, skilled shooters and thus these communities are being used in the organised wildlife crime, they slowly slithered in the illegal wildlife trade being the only vulnerable yet powerful connection between the riches need and the fragile wild. In the past 10 years, two experiment would start a change in these two communities - Mogya and Kalbeliya. A famous wildlife activist and journalist Bahar Datt, has been instrumental in changing things for the Snake Charmers. She documented the impact of Kalbeliya community activity on snakes and nature. Hundred snake charmers were gathered by her and they took them for a cultural program to Italy – this was their first exposure to the outside world where they were greeted with warmth and applauded. The single program made a remarkable perception change in the community they still remember it as an epic story of their community and always feel proud that world is ready to listen to them. The Mogya community on the other hand was given an interesting opportunity to change their lives, 40 children from the community are living and studying in a hostel by Tiger Watch in Ranthambhore. Three children are now doing industrial training thus learning a specialized skill which will lead them towards a new livelihood. The parents feel proud about their children's academic progress and more and more want them to get enrolled. These two programs are signs of a changing society, with time the snake charmers charm shall remain but without causing any harm to the snakes! We surely hope that.



2. Anti-poaching:

Hard work of anti-poaching in the guidance of Fateh Singh Rathore in between the year 2005 to 2010 by Tiger Watch and Rajasthan police improved tiger status in the reserve. The present time is considered as highest tiger number in the history of Ranthambhore. This is result of past work but the success is a challenge for the present time. If we cannot maintain the same pace of the work we cannot save our increased wildlife. This year Wildlife Crime Control Bureau officers and Tiger Watch got better relation regarding the information sharing. In 2013, we participated in a workshop with forest department conducted by WCCB for local community. The event was successful but the actual work cannot be execute without the local level coordinator like us. The actual raid in the year 2013-14 did not happened, but we have shared several information with forest department, the cases are as follows:

1. Wild-pig poisoning around *Maein- Bairwan* village of Khandar area. It is 3rd subsequent year when their poisoning is going on by farmers
2. Wildlife poaching around Bhid village by Pappu Gurjer, Kachada people and Deshraj Raibari
3. Poaching of wild pigs by Kheri villager – Ramsingh Mogya for the purpose of fat of wild pig selling to camel keepers
4. Bush meat poaching around Bhadlao and Shyampura these were mainly for herbivores.

Tiger Watch also disclosed name of 5 guards involved in the poaching of bush meat. Certain action has been taken by the forest officers but it was not strict, they just transferred them from one place to another. It has been discussed that we should give such information on paper, but it is personal feeling that possibly the officers may take such things negatively.



3. Mogya healthcare project:

The Mogya Healthcare Program is one of the most ground-breaking programs started by Tiger Watch in association with its strategic partner, Prakratik Society, to assist wildlife conservation in and around Ranthambhore. This program was funded by some welfare Trust in 2013 but they stopped funding it abruptly, although they committed for 2 years but after 10 months they stopped it without given any appropriate reason. As a chain reaction, our commitment with the community; which was for 2 years too was broken due to the unreliable funding source.

In the crisis period the program was supported by Ms Soonoo Taraporewala, she raised support for the project and we could finish our commitment with the community of 2 years. Soonoo supported this with the help from Miss Banoo Guzder charity, she was her teacher once. Total 266 individuals got benefit of the scheme in the next 1 year time period. The total 170 health card have been issued by our organisation to the Mogya family. Almost same number are keen to enrol.



4. **Human –wildlife Conflict:** the rise in number of wildlife also increased man- animal conflict in the area. Since 2010 total 6-7 human beings have been killed by tigers or leopards in the region, though all the conflicts are inside the park and not a single animal attack have been reported outside the park. In the year 2003-04, forest department distributed 17 thousand rupees to the community as cattle and human life compensation but it increased to 100 times and in the year 2013-14 the money reached 17 lac. The number of incident reported were just 13 in the year 2003-04 and last year 2013-14 the number touched figure of 425. The certain % is increased because of prompt reporting but the fact cannot be denied that the actual incident has also increased with the number increased of wildlife. Tiger Watch started a project of designing and procure rescue equipment's; the project is supported by AID organisation. This is a US based organisation of Indian people. Sachin Rai coordinated them and convinced them to support our human wildlife project.



Certain study and data we collected in the year 2013-14 and now we are proceeding towards a proper plan on this. This year around 45 snakes have been rescued by Tiger Watch from the vicinity of Sawai Madhopur. This year Kamlesh and Bharti Gurjers's medical support has been given by us. Fateh and daughter were attacked by a hyena near their house in the evening. They have been treated in Sevika Hospital, medical and subsidized bed charges given to them by us while free consultancy was provided by Sevika hospital.



5. Religious place impact reduction program:

Tiger Watch has helped forest department Ranthambhore and two more organisation called ATREE -www.atree.org- and ARC -www.arcworld.org for running Green Ganesha, Clean Ganesha campaign in Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve. The Ganesha temple exists in the Ranthambhore Tiger reserve attracts 10 lakh people during the annual festival which leads to large scale littering, pollution and possible disturbance to animals. Ms. Padmini Rathore took lead of the campaign and connected 18 other social and wildlife organisation from Sawai Madhopur in to the campaign. The main objective of the campaign was to start an awareness program among pilgrims so their negative impact on the ecosystem can be minimized. The campaign has been run in three phases -pre Ganesh fair, during the fair, and post fair cleaning. Campaign was action oriented. The pre Ganesh fair mainly included awareness among villagers, policy makers, and administration, police, and forest guards through rally, workshop, personal meeting etc. to replace plastic bags, 50 thousands alternative bags have been stitched and procured from various sources. Pilgrims bringing puja material in the plastic bags and finally throwing in the forest. The outsider pilgrims bring their food and other related stuff in the plastic bags too. These plastic material is a big challenge to deal. During the fair few tons of plastic have been collected from the pilgrims and in return alternative eco safe bags have been given to them. Post Ganesh Fair campaign was the most crucial phase - the litter cleaning with volunteers.





हरियाळी गणराज-रूपाळी गणराज

■ त्रिनेत्र मेले में पलेगा
चीन गणेश-कलीन गणेश
अभियान
मेले में पोलिथिन व
गदगी लेक के लिए
चल विभाग व कई
संगठन आए आगे

लगाईं नवशेखर

हरियाणू में चल विभाग के एकजवन से हरियाळी गणराज-रूपाळी गणराज अभियान के रहल अग्रेजित करदेसक में केवल वकत रतन गेहलु मेडीकल संगठनों के लेल।

बंगलुरु की संस्थान की पहल

इस अभियान की पहल असेका ट्रस्ट पद रिखर डन इकोलॉजी एंड एन्वयरमेंट (एडी) एवं पल्लवस ऑन रीजियनल एंड कम्युनिटी (अका) ने की है।

इस अभियान के सहयोग से इस कार्यशाला का आयोजन किया गया। इसमें गणेश महिदा ट्रस्ट के महल संजय दाधीय, मुख्य वक्ता सरवक खाई के खाई, उपवन सरवक सुदर्शन शर्मा, एडी की एल देवी व एस. रतन, समाजसेवी

पदुमनी रावैड अदि ने संवर्धित करी हर मेले में अपने अपने अड्डाओं से इस वकत मेले में पोलिथिन का उपयोग नहीं करने की अपील की।

लगाएंगे जर्माना

इस मौके पर वन्यभक्षियों ने बताया कि इस वकत मेले में गदगी फैलने वाले खाद्यपदार्थों के विक्रय का रोकथाम की जाएगी।

देक के ब्याजुद पोलिथिन पाके क्षेत्र में ले जाने पर पच्छीस हजार रुपय तक का जुर्माना लग सकता है।

ये संगठन आए आगे

अभियान में प्राकृतिक संसाधनों से सचिद कौर, भुमि परिवार (संगठन) से सुकेज कुमार भुमि, विवेक कुमार, टाटार जैव धर्मोद खंडल, रणभक्षी पत्रागणन से हनुमान प्रसाद, किटार पर टाटार से मकान भौंड, डबल्यू.डबल्यू.एक से शर्मा, अना पर से जी.पी.के. बंसल व सोनिय दाई, हरिया अभियान केन्द्र से मनीष बैरवा, रणभक्षी काटल लाक काजियेन सोसायटी से के.पी. सिंह अदि सहयोग करेंगे।



Related articleReligion and conservation must go hand in hand -...Dharmendra Khandal

(<http://www.mydigitalfc.com/node/477351>)

In 1986, former president of WWF International, HRH Prince Philip, invited leaders of five major religions of the world — buddhism, christianity, hinduism, islam and judaism — to discuss how faith could help in the conservation of biodiversity and nature. Every member was given an extraordinary invite: “Come, proud of your own tradition, but humble enough to learn from others”. All leaders shared their concerns and the responsibility for protecting the earth. The successful event saw huge attendance and, as a result, many journalists and wildlife groups became associates to help link nature and religion and to face the newer challenges of the developing world. They formed a new, integrated, global organisation and called it Alliance for Religion and Conservation (ARC). Today, this organisation is working in many countries and recently I got an opportunity to work with them, too. The ARC has joined hands with India’s science organisation ATREE to support them in improving the condition of religious practices in and around tiger reserves. India has 45 tiger reserves and all of them have many religious places inside and around them. These religious places are visited by millions of people every year. However, of late, this trend is changing. Along with pilgrims, many picnickers have also started visiting these restricted areas. They blend with pilgrims but, unlike pilgrims, are more leisurely in using the space and time within the restricted areas of the tiger reserve. The impact and the burden of the picnickers are big on the ecosystem, as they bring plastic waste and are noisy. ATREE co-ordinator Soubadra Devi, along with ARC, started the first project at Ranthambhore. She believes that the locals understand the negative impact of their acts of waste disposal and believes that with guidance and aid, they will correct these practices that harm the ecosystem. ATREE has similar experience in Kalakkad Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve (KMTR), which is India’s southernmost tiger reserve. The KMTR has a temple inside the core of the forest that millions of people visit, leaving a major impact on nature. They stay in the reserve, use water streams for bathing and use open areas for defecation. They also throw filth in the forest and wild animals consume stale food, sometimes along with the wrapper made of paper or plastic. There is no study on the impact of such practices, but surely it cannot be positive. Uncontrolled crowd and their trash are just the tip of the iceberg. Many other issues come crop up with such unrestrained religious processions. We need not shun away and think of this as a taboo subject, because this concerns our very rare and valuable wildlife species. We need to speak about this religious issue as openly as we speak about tourism and other issues concerning the health of forests and its inhabitants. With awareness and assistance, we may be able to bring a positive change.



6. Community Support Program:

Tiger Watch always believe that without support to the local community it is difficult to save tigers alone by forest department alone. Tiger Watch is always supportive in the community conservation work. Mogya hostel, health care program and other projects are such examples. There are several other community and social organisations, which need motivation to work in the direction of conservation

- I. **Cattle compensation in critical scenario:** Tiger Watch is not giving regular cattle compensation to the community. Forest department already increased amount of the compensation and second they also improved the efficiency towards timely payment of compensation. In special situation, when the department feels that the cattle is really high value and the person is below poverty line, Tiger Watch also adds some money in the compensation on request of Forest department. Similar case came when a tiger killed a buffalo in Khandar tehsil. Khandar is a most vulnerable area and maximum tiger holding range of Ranthambhore. In April 2013, we compensated to Mr. Samandar Singh Jat S/o Shri Kedar jat for his good breed buffalo when a tiger killed it in his house. Tiger watch gave 10 thousand rupees to him.



- II. **Support to schools around Ranthambhore:** Mogya kids are studying in various schools, they are government and public schools both. Government schools are facing problems of basic infrastructural crisis. Every year we are supporting them for certain things, this year we supported two different schools- **Kutalpura Government School and Sherpur Government School**. We provided them matting so student can use them in the class. Total 30 thousand rupees in this project and all the money is given to us by Dieter Gutman a friend of tiger from Germany. This year we also supported **Tiger City School** run by Mukesh Bhupremi for their annual games competition. The school came forward during the Green Ganesha Clean Ganesha campaign, many students of the school spent three days with the team of forest department. We gave them 10 thousand rupees, the money came to us from ATREE organisation fund. This program is executed in the field by Adv Padmini Rathore.



- III. Support to students of Ranthambhore:** Tiger Watch not only supporting the education centres but also some students. This year we raised support for Vijay Gurjer s/o Ramphool Gurjer. This kid is from the Ranthambhore's relocated family. His father is regularly supporting Tiger Watch activity during wild animal rescue work. It is the more respectable way to keep them motivate for the tiger conservation work. The fund for Vijay's study is raised by Diya Banerjee and Shradha Ghai. Tamanna and Nikita are two such girls students are supported by Dhonk through us and they are now studying in Fateh Public School. For the study of Tamanna and Nikita INR 75,000 have been raised. Ajanta Mali's daughter, going to college also was given monitory help for her coaching.



IV. Support to Mogya families:

- a. Open well and water pump support to Rajmal Mogya: Tiger Watch team has better sound understanding about the Mogya people. Especially those were involved in the tiger poaching and some of them need certain monitoring and support to come out from their shady past. They need certain support for this. Dhonk generated support of INR 75,000 for an open well in this Mogya hamlet. They also provided a water lifting pump set to Rajmal Mogya Family.



OAT and Dhonk Supported well digging and Engine set for Rajmal Mogya and other families



- b. Tin shade for Rajendra Mogya: Rajendra Mogya is always supportive to Tiger Watch anti-poaching team, instead of give him money for his services Tiger Watch supported him for making his house. Tin shade have been provided to him for his new house. He is a young boy who has started his life.
- c. Pilot project for poultry work: Three family have been supported to start mall poultry in their home. This is a very initial stage of the project. Earlier they were not based on one place, so they have no learning about keeping hens. Now family of Lakhan Mogya started it successfully after initial failure they are quite confident and say that they are earning 1000 per month from 10 hens. Now we are looking towards doing it at a bigger level.



- d. **Bicycle support:** in last one year two Mogyas have been given bicycles, these are using these cycle to earn livelihood. One of them is selling vegetables in his village while other is using it to go to his work place and thus saving transportation money. Jugreaj and Lakhan are the main beneficiary. The project is supported by Dieter Gutman.



- e. **Quill distribution among Mogyas:** during the winter the family of Mogyas are facing big crisis for warm clothing, Diet Gutman understood the need and he helped arrange quilts for 50 Mogyas. These quilts have been distributed by range officer MR. RS Kala. The project was financially supported by Dieter Gutman.



7. Support to Forest department:

I. medical support to forest guards:

Medical help to forest guards, the project is most required project in the area. When the team of Tiger Watch interacts with forest guards, they feel that we can help them in Sevika hospital, which is clean and provides good health care facility in the district it is run by sister organisation Prakartik Society. In this project we did not have enough fund but we put money from our other funds left are g used or we raise it separately. It is commendable that Sevika Hospital provides free consultancy or they reduce 10% to 15% of the total cost of the operation or other such medical help. In last one year we have supported 4 forest guards- two of them related to Eye operation, one cancer etc. The money for these programs are sometime raised by us with our network, like in the case of Ishak Khan we raised money from Oberoi hospital through us and some money directly from donors support from Rupesh Kumar. All the cases were recommended by forest rangers or senior officers of the forest department. Two of them are recipient of Fateh Singh Rathore Conservation awards also.

- a) Ramswaroop Meena Forester eye treatment support: 3500/-
- b) Ishak Khan Cancer treatment support: 34000/-
- c) Chhotu Saini support: 3000/-
- d) Sheoji Ram Gurjer eye operation: 7500/-



II. Truck for patrolling

Mr.Y.K.Sahu, Field Director, Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve informed us that SBI wants to help the cause of wildlife conservation by donating a Wildlife Rescue vehicle and related equipment. He also informed that they wish to donate to some NGO having benefits of 80G. Tiger Watch is a non-profitable organisation registered under the Societies Registration Act and have registration under 80G. Since Tiger Watch is working for wildlife conservation, we volunteer our services for the noble assistance. We passed 100%, the assistance provided by SBI, to the Field Director, Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve. The truck is now operating in the field and SBI supported for the projects with INR 14 lakh through Tiger Watch.



III. Shoes to entire guards of Sawai Mansingh Sanctuary Staff: Ranger officer Mr. RS Kala pointed out that their staff need support of good shoes so they can use them while tiger patrolling. Possibly his range is always considered the most critical range. Ranthambhore National park which has 4 different ranges and these total ranges are surrounded by 34 villages on zero distance of the park, while the Phalodi range is alone surrounded by 42 villages. The Sawai Mansingh is having only one range which is called Phalodi. The anthropogenic pressure on the range is enormous and staff facing many challenges. 45 pairs of shoes have been given to them which costs INR 50 thousand. Vanyavilas Oberoi financially supported Tiger Watch for the shoes distribution work.

IV. Wildlife week/ earth day/ Tiger day celebration with forest department: Forest department always celebrating such special awareness days, it is mandatory for them and they have certain budget for the program also. Tiger watch always supportive towards them and enhancing the impact of their work with involvement personally, financially or any possible way. During the Earth Day forest department requested us to support in distribution of T shirts among village children's so we distributed 50 T shirts to them. During the wildlife week Tiger Watch supported with providing them trophies for winners.

V. Felicitation of retired staff: Forest department is facing a crisis of mass retirement of experienced staff. Almost all the old staff are going to retire from the forest department up to 2016. The new guards are not as interested as the old one to stay in the park. The forest job is tough and not considered as a peaceful job so new guards are always trying to join new jobs like bank, school, patwari, clerk, railway etc. Every time when guards are retired forest department felicitate them with a function and gifts. Tiger Watch also gave gifts to 4 forest employees. It was a small positive gesture towards the guards, who have served many years in the service of tiger conservation. Most of the guards were recruited by Fateh Singh Rathore.



8. Fateh Singh Memorial lecture and Award function:

Mr. Fateh Singh Rathore, the “Tiger Man” as he was affectionately called, was a true champion for the tigers of Ranthambhore. With his unshakable fervour towards the tiger and other wildlife of Ranthambhore, he fought for the protection of the park and its wildlife, with a commitment that few can match. He passed away on March 01, 2011 and left behind a legacy which will inspire generations to come. Every year Tiger Watch conducts the Fateh Singh Rathore Wildlife awards on the 1st March. This award is presented to individuals/ villages/ officials and organizations who are actively involved in the conservation work of Ranthambhore forest.

The third ‘Shri Fateh Singh Rathore Memorial Awards’ ceremony was held at the Fetah Public School in Sawai Madhopur on March 1, 2014. The honourable Chief speaker included Mr. S Ahmed, former Chief Secretary of Rajasthan and Fateh Singh Rathore’s best friend. Tiger Watch Chairman Mr. John Singh, Hon. Wildlife Warden Mr. Balendu Singh, DCF – Rahul Bhatnagar, ACF’s, Range officers, guards, many well-known wild life associated people, villagers, students etc attended the program.





Fateh Singh Memorial lecture and conservation Award function -2014



	SHRI FATEH SINGH RATHORE CONSERVATION AWARD 2014		
	ON 1st MARCH 2014 AT FATEH PUBLIC SCHOOL (S.W.M.)		
S. No.	Name	Post/ address	Amount
1	Mr. Daulat Singh Shaktawat	ACF - RTR	21,000
2	Mr. Rakesh Verma	Journalist	10,000
3	Mr..Jugal Jogi	Prakaratik Society Village worker	10,000
4	Mr.Hansraj Gurjar	Cattle Guard	10,000
5	Mr.Sheojiram Gurjar	Cattle Guard	10,000
6	Mr.Mahipal Singh S/o Chotu Singh	Talwas Villager	2,000
7	Mr.Hanuman Chaudhary	Home guard	2,000
8	Mr.Jugaraj Chaudhary	Home Guard	2,000
9	Ms. Kalawati W/o Mr . Kajod Mal Saini	Nimli- Villager	2,000
10	Mr. Rambilas Meena	Shyampura- villager	2,000
11	Mr. Bhambal Meena	Bassao khurd- Villager	2,000
12	Mr. Amar singh	Home Guard	2,000
13	Mr. UdaI bhan Singh	Cattle Guard	2,000
14	Mr. Mukesh Gurjar	Nature Guide	2,000
15	Mr. Sanjeev kumar Kagarwal	Lawyer	5,000



9. Research:

- I. **Religious places:** A study has been commissioned by Tiger Watch and ATREE with help of students of reputed institution TISS regarding the “Impacts of Religious Activities on Forest and Wildlife: A Study of the Ganesh Temple in the Ranthambhore National Park”. Five researchers collected data for 45 days. This study tries to meet the following objectives
1. To estimate the average number of pilgrims who visit the Ganesh Temple and other shrines in the Ranthambhore Fort complex and to provide information on the types of transportation used by pilgrims.
 2. To gauge the different socio-economic backgrounds of the pilgrims and to understand the different perceptions that they may have about the impacts religious activities has on the ecosystem.
 3. To comprehend the perceptions of the local community (those living in the peripheral villages), holistically and historically.
 4. To understand the current situation regarding waste and waste management, with special reference to places of religious importance.
 5. To provide solutions, suggestions /recommendations to those concerned in hopes of reducing the negative impacts of religious activities on the ecosystem at the Ranthambhore National Park.
- 5 students spent 45 days in the field and collected all the required data. They prepared a report for ATREE and ARC organisations.
- II. **LPG connection impact assessment for forest department:** To reduce the deforestation, the Rajasthan Government provided LPG connections to villagers residing near the Ranthambhore tiger forest. Traditional energy source (fuel wood from forest) is posing a huge negative impact on natural ecosystem due to population growth of country. Tiger habitat is a more delicate and significant ecosystem of the country. The government is taking serious measures to protect its national animal and to save such forests. In Ranthambhore, forest department has designed a vital program for community support and conclusive protection for **the forest. 26 thousand LPG connections have been provided over the decade in the vicinity of Ranthambhore tiger reserve** on subsidized rates. When the LPG connection distribution program had been designed in Ranthambhore the concern was whether the rural population around Ranthambhore will switch to this newer fuel method? The apprehension was because the availability of wood is not difficult and suited their traditional rural lifestyle. **This report revealed the pattern of use and success and challenges**



of the program. It is a creditable step taken by the forest department that they invited an independent agency (Tiger Watch) for the assessment and evaluation of their project. The survey has provided us an opportunity to collect many other interesting data that we can use in the future to design a better LPG project. For example socio economic study has been done in the project to understand the LPG use pattern by income, education, land holding capacity, livestock keeping, demographic use pattern, distance with the LPG cylinder providers (gas agency) etc. Unfortunately the report also revealed that huge irregularities have been done in the distribution of LPG connection in Kailadevi Sanctuary. The reports of both the divisions – Ranthambhore and Kailadevi division have been submitted to the filed director of RTR. Team of 8 different researchers executed the work in the field. Forest department gave fund to execute this work.



Executive Board Members

Mr. John Singh — Chairman
Mr. Ashutosh Mahadevia — Secretary
Mr. Sachin Rai — Joint Secretary
Mr. Iskander Lalljee
Dr. Goverdhan Singh Rathore
Ms. Soonoo Taraporewala
Dr. Ajay Veer Khurana
Mr. Divyabhanu Singh Chavda
Mr. Rishad Naoraji
Mr. Ravi Singh
Mr. Sharookh Mehta
Mr. Pradip Shah

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Mr. Kaushal Tiwari
Mr. Mansingh Rajpoot
Mr. Chandra Prakash Sharma
Mr. CP Vaishnav
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