



Tiger Watch

Annual Report

2019-20



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Dear friends,

2019-20 has been a productive year for all at Tiger Watch. Our existing niche in the Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve has recently undergone expansion by supporting new partners in other parts of Rajasthan. Indeed, while there has been significant growth in all of our interventions, there is no denying that the COVID-19 pandemic has proven to be a formidable challenge. Yet, it is our proven resilience to this challenge that is worth taking note of as well as how our subsequent adaptations created unprecedented opportunities in some of our most longstanding interventions in the conservation of wildlife. The Village Wildlife Volunteers, successfully monitored 25 different Tigers with 295 camera trap pictures this year! Their anti-poaching work has been formidable too. This also entailed the detection of snares, gunpowder bombs, cases of electrocution and the collection of timber/non-timber plants. They have also reported cases of illegal mining, along with issues of growing concern such as feral dogs and human-wildlife conflict. There is no denying that interlopers of various hues see the COVID-19 pandemic as a golden opportunity to exploit the forest and its resources, yet the fact that the VWV were able to ensure the arrest of poachers and other criminals shows that the program is resilient to a crisis like the pandemic, by virtue of being a community led initiative which cannot be redirected for relief work like a government agency. Nevertheless, they did also assist in distributing soap and encouraging sanitary practices in remote villages around the Tiger Reserve with the onset of the pandemic. The Mogya Education Program has also seen significant overhaul with the appointment of our new hostel warden, Mr. Meethalal Gurjer. There are new structured academic routines with much room for supervised extracurricular activities too. There has also been a renewed emphasis on computer literacy and personal hygiene, which are essential in today's world. Students such as Dilkush an Abhishek, have recently demonstrated tremendous artistic and academic prowess. All students have cleared their examinations in the A-B letter grade range and this is extraordinary considering that most of the students had a very poor academic record prior to enrolling in the program. The COVID-19 pandemic has compelled us to close our MEP hostel for the moment and we have improvised a model of home schooling until there is a return to normalcy. This involves our hostel warden and VWV Dharm Singh Gurjer travelling to Mogya families for lessons. This has resulted in girls in Mogya families also attending the lessons. A first for the community and an unprecedented opportunity to educate them as well!

The 9th Fateh Singh Rathore memorial lecture and award ceremony earlier this year allowed us to continue our growing pan-Rajasthan approach to conservation. Along with the formal launch of the Rajasthan Biodiversity Program Network, the Bagh-Mitra School programme, we have continued to support interventions in the Desert National Park through the GIB Conservation Fund which was supported by SUJAN and Sud-Chemie.

We have also continued our capacity building efforts with Forest Departments of different states along with law enforcement agencies among others. Tiger Watch has also published a number of research papers and has also found itself in the news concerning both Ranthambhore and media relevant to the conservation of wildlife in general.

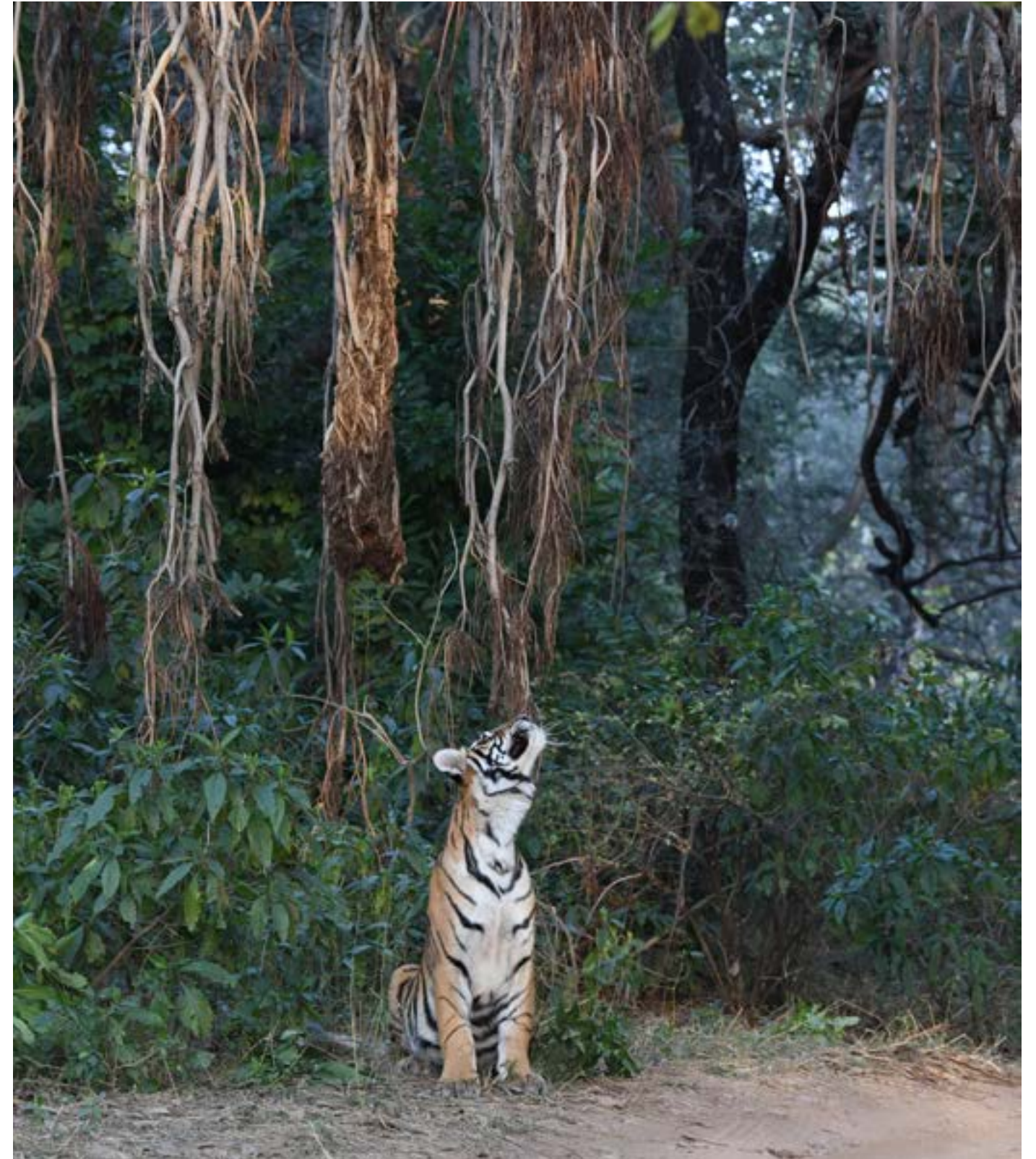
To conclude on a very encouraging note, we have also collaborated with youth groups in the interest of some new but crucial interventions. The first was with Team Fateh, a group of enthusiastic high school students from Jaipur, who started a project to introduce solar lighting in Mogya homes called Project Noor. The second is 'Mission eat Plastic Ranthambhore', a local youth group which has adopted the worthy cause of improving sanitation in and around Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve!

I would like to thank all the board for their continuing support. I would also like to thank and commend, Dharmendra and the entire field team for building Tiger Watch into what it is today. I also thank all of our donors and supporters for their good faith, for all their encouragement and their trust in Tiger Watch.



There appears to be a new set of challenges on the road ahead of us, particularly with the alarming rise in human wildlife conflict and COVID 19. Nevertheless, I am still confident, that with our degree of information, leadership and community engagement, we are ideally placed to mitigate conflict and address all challenges.

Iskander Lalljee
Chairman Tiger Watch



Dear Friends,

Tiger Watch continues to cover new milestones in the field of conservation. Every program is more unique than the other, setting a classic example for other conservation organizations to follow. The bandwidth that our organization displays year on year continues to surprise me. Anti Poaching, wildlife monitoring, research, biodiversity studies, supporting the forest department, rehab programs for the Mogya hunting tribe, man animal conflict..... the list is endless, a one that will make you all proud.

I said earlier that our programs are unique. Let me qualify my statement. I remember very well Fatehji showing me the internal report made by the police force of three states stating that the Mogyas could never be reformed or rehabilitated.

Despite this report, Fatehji, as unique as his organization Tiger Watch has turned out to be, strived hard to get the first grant from the NFWIF USA for 103000 \$, to resettle the Mogyas. Our first attempt was a failure but today Tiger Watch has made it a “Roaring” success. Who would believe that the Mogya boys would themselves, reflect an equal amount of resilience & progress to come to the position they are in today. This success can be measured in the form of Academic excellence as shown by their report cards, through participation in various events and winning awards in art & sports and to top it all in mimicking the calls of animals. Wow!!! What a show. In the last AGM, Dharam brought to us the heart wrenching, firsthand account given by a Mogya of how a typical tiger poaching was organized and executed. While on the emotional side it broke my heart on the other hand it gave a never before insight into the secret world of poachers and their operations. Our second biggest achievement has been the Village Wildlife Volunteer program. The annual report, a copy of which must have been mailed to you contains how this program works and the impact it has had on the protection of tigers and other wildlife. The classical part about this program is that with “one stone we kill four birds - not two”. We tackle the ever present problem of poaching, man animal conflict, research in form of information gathered about wildlife in and around the park and through remuneration enhancing the lives of people who are chief engaged in rearing livestock and agriculture. The enormous success of this program reflects clearly in the increase in the Tiger population in Ranthambhore. So much so that Ranthambhore has become a source for populating other reserves in the state. The other major gain that we have had through this program is the creation of positive perception amongst villagers about wildlife & the forest department and vice versa. When this happens our efforts become more sustainable. The VWV have contributed so much towards a better management of the buffer zone leading to a healthier core zone. I have to make a special mention of how our VW Warriors have so bravely tracked man eating tigers without any weapons. Their efforts of investigating and covering locations of man-eating incidents with photo trap cameras would make even the great conservationist Jim Corbett proud of them. I congratulate Dharam and team for organizing and training a force that can be likened to an undercover police/army team. I would say to understand deeper this whole process please read in detail the wonderful report written by the team.

The office team has meticulously recorded every incident of poaching, the methods utilized, attacks on humans by various wildlife, rescue operations, mining and deforestation - reflecting a well organized and motivated office staff. The various workshops organized, conferences attended, reflects that Tiger Watch is constantly humming with vibrant activity. The launch of the Bagh Mitra Program will surely go a long way in conservation awareness while the Rajasthan Biodiversity Web site will become an amazing platform for sharing wildlife happening across the state.

The Annual Fateh Singh Rathore Conservation Awards continue to encourage people to become great conservation warriors just the way he did while he was amongst us. I see in front of me many of us who started on this wildlife path just because he nudged us into this way of life.

To conclude I have to give hearty congratulations and thanks to Dharam, Ishan, Minu, Mr. Kunteta and the



not so prominent members of the team for the amazing & selfless job they have done. I must thank Sahuji and other members of the forest department who played & are playing a crucial role in setting a classic example of a “Public Private Partnership” that has lead to a successful protection of the Tiger and other wildlife at Ranthambhore. Special congratulations to the VWV and the Mogya boys from all the trustees for helping reflect the success of Tiger Watch.

Above all, I thank all the trustees for motivating many of the generous donors that have made all the activities of Tiger Watch possible. I also wish to thank all the trustees who have themselves have made their own personal & generous donations to Tiger Watch. Dharam and team keep up the good work. My best wishes to all.

Ashutosh Mahadevia
Secretary Tiger Watch



An aerial photograph of a vast, flat landscape, likely a savanna or dry forest. The terrain is covered with numerous small, scattered trees and patches of green vegetation interspersed with dry, yellowish-brown ground. In the lower right foreground, there is a small, circular pond with a dark, still surface. A dirt road or path winds through the landscape, and a small, light-colored building is visible near the pond. The horizon is flat and extends to the top of the frame under a clear sky.

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Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve

Ranthambhore is one of the most popular tiger reserves in India. Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve (RTR) is located at the junction of the Aravalli and the Vindhyan hill ranges and this juxtaposition of hill ranges is perhaps the reason behind the uniquely rich bio-diversity of the Ranthambhore. 'Project Tiger' was launched here in April 1973. It was one of the first nine parks to be designated a Tiger Reserve. This meant that the tiger's habitat had to be managed efficiently in order to prevent further damage to the ecosystem and to facilitate the recovery of the ecosystem back to its inviolate natural state. RTR lies between latitudes 25° 41' N

to 26° 22' N and longitudes 76° 16' E to 77° 14' E. The reserve is situated in the S-E part of Rajasthan and spreads over 3 districts viz. Sawai Madhopur, Karauli & Bundi. On the eastern side of the reserve is the Chambha river. The Banas river divides the reserve into 2 parts. The N-E part of the Kailadevi WLS and the S-E part forms the Ranthambhore National park. The total area of the Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve is 1473.554sq.km, out of which 1113.364 sq.km. has been notified, as Critical Tiger Habitat. Apart from this, the remaining 360.19 sq. kms of RTR is a de facto buffer area.



Tiger Watch

Tiger Watch is a non-governmental organization working since 1998 with the core objective of the protection of wildlife in Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve in Rajasthan and its adjoining areas. The organization was initiated due to the need of aid in difficult times in Ranthambhore during the 1990s. Mr. Fateh Singh Rathore's immense concern about Ranthambhore's wildlife and natural heritage, 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 the formation of

this NGO. Tiger Watch has always been on the frontlines, be it anti-poaching, wildlife monitoring, biodiversity exploration, research, community support, assisting the forest department, or traditional hunting community "Mogya" rehabilitation programs, providing aid in cattle compensation to mitigate human-wildlife conflict and setting an example as an efficient conservation unit.

A tiger with orange fur and black stripes is standing on a small dirt mound. It is looking towards the right side of the frame. The background is a dense forest with many trees and green foliage. The lighting is natural, suggesting daylight.

1. Village Wildlife Volunteers



Background

India is a unique place where wildlife and humans have coexisted since time immemorial. Growing human populations and depleting forest cover have resulted in a rise in human-wildlife conflict in India. Poaching and habitat encroachment have become a major concern for the forest department. At the same time, the forest department is short-staffed especially at the lower levels, which consist of forest guards and frontline staff positions. Due to the limited size of Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve, animals routinely move into villages situated outside the reserve for food and in search of new territory. There is a need for constant surveillance for monitoring the movement of these stray animals, mainly tigers. Hence, in 2013, Tiger Watch started an innovative program called the Village Wildlife Volunteers (VWV) in collaboration with the Forest Department of Rajasthan, with the assistance of various supporters. The initiative was developed under the guidance of Mr Y.K. Sahu, the former Field Director – Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve. It is a unique example of successful collaboration between

the Forest Department and an NGO in the conservation of wildlife by taking local communities on board. A first for India.

The Village Wildlife Volunteers are a vigilant task force constituted of local villagers living around the Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve, chiefly engaged in rearing livestock and agriculture. Tiger Watch has recruited upto 50 VWV from villages adjoining RTR. They monitor wildlife along with their day to day business. They also defend the forest and the wildlife around their villages. Tiger Watch financially remunerates these volunteers. Over the years VWV has established itself as a successful model for the efficient management of Tiger reserves. The Village Wildlife Volunteer Program is conducted in the forest around the critical tiger habitat of Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve, which is comprised of the Ranthambhore National Park, the Sawai Mansingh Sanctuary and the Kailadevi Wildlife Sanctuary.

How it works

A contagious ambience of rush and excitement peaks every morning at 9 am. Camera trap images start pouring in from a network of 50 cameras installed on the fringes of RTR. The VWV use smartphones to download the photographs and send these using WhatsApp. Our staff identifies each and every tiger from photos after consulting our tiger image database. The location of every tiger is then marked on the map to keep track of its movements. The main intention behind this program was to monitor tiger and leopards movements outside RTR. Slowly the VWV also started providing information regarding poaching and other illegal activities like mining and logging in the forest. Due to timely intelligence provided by VWV, the forest department has successfully averted poaching multiple times. VWV have played a very important role in managing human-wildlife conflict situations. They have also come up with important natural history documentation like the brown sloth bear and the elusive small cat caracal. We have now expanded the scope of the VWV program. In addition

to keeping a track of wildlife, we are following stray tigers to ensure their safety. For example, our team of skilled VWV trackers, have continuously tracked tigers T-91 and T-56 for more than 4 months when they had strayed on different occasions. It was observed that these tigers covered more than more than 150 km in distance from RTR. The VWV are playing an important role in creating a positive perception among villagers towards wildlife and the forest department. They assist their fellow villagers in receiving compensation for the loss of crop and livestock caused by wild animals. This has been very instrumental in reducing incidents of human-animal conflicts around RTR. The VWV have played a very important part in rescuing stray animals outside RTR, including Leopards and Tigers. The management of the 'buffer zone' is very important for a healthy core zone of any protected area and the VWV are effectively doing this job at RTR.



Selection & Training

Tiger Watch selects and trains all of the VWV. Most of them are villagers who live close to the park boundary and are from agrarian or pastoral communities. They are hired for a part-time commitment; therefore the volunteers continue to be engaged with their original respective occupations. The remuneration provided is not their main source of income, but very specific task based payment. If the individual VWV is not able to fulfill the role desired of him, remuneration is halted. New recruits are also selected by the VWV themselves.

VWV with a good track record are elevated to coordinator posts where feasible. Coordinators monitor, train, and guide their teams of VWV to overcome challenges whilst working. Generally, one coordinator handles a team of 5-6 VWV. He also analyses the voluminous information they provide and makes sure it reaches the correct channel on time. Coordinators receive a fix monthly remuneration. The VWVs receive additional on the job training from senior VWVs, coordinators and the forest guards they associate with. They are taught to use camera traps, GPS, compasses, range finders, conduct line transects and collect ecological data, construction of POP pugmark casts, tracking tigers, etc. They are also trained in using the most modern communication devices, like smartphones. They are equipped with smartphones, OTG card readers (to transmit camera trap photos on whatsapp), motorcycles and 4x4 vehicles for the more

of efficient tracking of tigers. All the VWV are also provided with uniforms and shoes. The VWV also regularly visit the Tiger Watch head office, to discuss issues related their work. We also conduct bi-monthly meetings with the VWV coordinators to assess their work. Geographic focus- Ranthambhore is one of the most popular tiger reserves in India. Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve (RTR) is located at the junction of the Aravalli and the Vindhyan hill ranges and this confluence is perhaps the reason for the rich bio-diversity in Ranthambhore. Project Tiger was launched here in April 1973. It was one of the first 9 parks to be created as a Tiger Reserve. This meant that the tiger's habitat had to be managed efficiently in order to prevent further damage to the ecosystem and to facilitate the recovery of the ecosystem back to its inviolate natural state. RTR lies between latitudes 25° 41' N to 26° 22' N and longitudes 76° 16' E to 77° 14' E. The reserve is situated in the S-E part of Rajasthan and spreads over 3 districts viz. Sawai Madhopur, Karauli & Bundi. On the eastern side of the reserve is the Chambal river. The river Banas divides the reserve into 2 parts. The N-E part of Kailadevi WLS and S-E part is the Ranthambhore National park. The total area of the Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve is 1473.554sq.km, out of which 1113.364 sq.km. has been notified, as Critical Tiger Habitat. The remaining 360.19 sq. kms of RTR is a de facto 'buffer area.'

Dr. Dharmendra Khandal and the VWV interacting with Smt. Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, Sh. Jaisal Singh, Smt. Anjali Singh and Sh. Abhimanyu Golcha

Tiger Watch's "Village Wildlife Volunteer" Program in the Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve has become an essential part of the conservation process there since its inception in 2013. Equipped with camera traps and mobile phones, the Volunteers monitor the wilderness around them using these technological tools to report their daily findings to Tiger

Watch and to the Forest Department GoR. On the 15th of February, Smt. Priyanka Gandhi Vadra ji came to learn more about this unique program and how it is contributing to the conservation effort in and around the Ranthambhore landscape. During a long interactive session, Priyanka ji commended the volunteers for their dedication and suggested

the scale of the program be increased, and hoped that this model is extended to other Tiger Reserves in Rajasthan. Priyanka ji also enquired about proximate challenges and was appraised of the importance of the strengthening of the Kailadevi Wildlife Sanctuary, which is the key to the future of a viable

tiger population in Ranthambhore. The Village Wildlife Volunteers shared unique anecdotes with her. Priyanka Ji was presented with a copy of "Wildlife Warriors", a publication on the program.



Tiger Monitoring



Total tiger detections- 283
Detections of individual tigers- 25

The Volunteers keep an eye out for the movement of wildlife, especially Tigers moving in and out of the Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve. In a handful of cases, a Volunteer has even tracked and followed a tiger for over 235 kms to the neighboring state of Madhya Pradesh, which helped map out the migratory corridors of the Tigers of Ranthambhore for the first time. The information obtained through this exercise has never been seen before and has evaded generations of forest officers and scientists.

Tracking a problem tiger T-104-

Tiger T-104 was being regularly tracked by VWV- Harimohan Gurjar and his team because this tiger killed 4 human beings. The VWV team tracked this man-eater tiger from June 2019 to September 2019. On September 12, the tiger killed 4th man from Medpura village, Karauli. After the incident, the local community were very upset with the forest department. Then the VWV team helped in mitigating the situation. The forest department officials came there and started tracking the tiger. Then on September 18, 2019 the tiger was tranquilized, captured and released inside an enclosure. The Deputy Conservator of Forest- Kaialdevi appreciated the VWV team's hard work and perseverance.



Report of an injured tiger

.Village Wildlife Volunteer Bahadur Gurjar was following tiger pugmarks in the Khara Khad area of Sawai Mansingh Sanctuary area on September 18 just as he would on any other day. That's when he heard the sound of tigers fighting. He immediately gave this information to his coordinator and also installed a camera trap but no photo came. On 24 September, a photo of T-42 came from Bhairupura. It was found in the photo that tiger T-42 is injured. The next day on September 29th, T-109 was seen near the OTC farm. When Bahadur Gurjar and Harisingh Gurjar reached there, they found that T-109 is also injured. Then the forest department was informed and they tranquilized the tiger and took it for treatment.



3. Tiger monitoring in Dangarwada area: A tragic incident occurred on 7 October 2019, when 10-year-old Neeraj Kandra of Acher village was attacked by a tiger. After the tragic incident in Acher village, Chief Forest Conservator of Wildlife and Director Mr. Manoj Parasar wrote a letter (S.No VWV/2019/3513 Dated- 24/10/2019) to the Village Wildlife Volunteers to deploy special teams for monitoring around Dangarwada area of Phalodi range. Immediately all the VWVs of Phalodi range got together and started intensive tiger monitoring of that area and also informed the youth of the village that they should not go into the forest and keep an eye around the village. After significant monitoring by the VWV team, it was reported that the tiger went deep inside the forest area.



4.T-92 tracking- T92, according to our monitoring records was missing from February 11, 2020 for which a special search operation was organized by the Forest Department with our team of VWVs in hot months- April, May and June. The operation continued through July as well, yet the teams couldn't trace any signs of the tiger. Search operations by the VWVs team began on April, 2020. The team consisted of Hari Mohan, Bihari Singh, Lakhan, Dharm Singh and Harisingh and they were, on some occasions, joined by forest guards from Mandrail range. The tigress is still missing.



Dholpur Tiger Monitoring

5. T-116 tracking- This tiger strayed out of Ranthambhore to reach Karanpur of Mandrail range in the ravines of Chambal, while moving through the Khandar and Baler areas along the river. The tiger was continuously moving so it became necessary to track its movement to ensure that it doesn't meet an unwanted end. DFO, Karauli had requested the VWV to track and trace this tiger's movement. While on move the tiger reached the Baadi area of the Sarmathura range in Dholpur territorial forest. Its tracking started on January 16, 2020 by our team of VWV comprising of Hari Mohan, Battilal, Bhura Singh, Bihari Singh, Sugan Singh and Lakhan. The team would trek 10-15 kms daily usually finding pugmarks in different places. The team then set up camera traps along the areas with pugmarks. They succeeded in tracing the tiger near a two days old kill of buffalo on January 23 near Ghinoriya Khoh of Sarmathura. They regularly got signs of tiger's presence in the area in the form of pugmarks, trap camera images, various kills made by the tiger including cows, buffaloes, wild boar, blue bull, goats, etc. Along with T-116, the

cameras also captured images of T-118 (missing for over 10 months). Our VWV were working as per the instructions of the Wildlife DFO of Dholpur whilst tracing the tiger. The last movement of this tiger was recorded from the Baadi area to the Ramsagar Dam area and then the tiger moved towards Kailadev Wildlife Sanctuary. The tiger was monitored for a continuous two month of period.

6. T-117 tracking- This tiger went missing from the Mandrail area of Karauli, for a period of three months and our team of VWV tried to find it whilst monitoring T-116 from the Dholpur area. The tiger however, could not escape our camera traps and was successfully tracked to the Mandrail area in January. Since then this tiger along with T-116, is being regularly tracked by our team of VWV. Although T-117's camera trap images are not as frequent as other tigers, still our cameras successfully capture 2-3 images every month, suggesting its presence in the area.





Anti-Poaching

1. 9/2/2020, VWV Bihari Singh spotted some Mogya individuals roaming in the forest area. Upon further investigation, the VWV found that the Mogya poachers killed a Wild Boar on the spot. They started butchering the meat, whereas the VWV stood there like an intrigued local villager and surreptitiously took pictures of all the activity. He immediately informed the forest department.



2. May 14, 2020 five poachers with two guns riding motorbikes were found scanning the Damdama Plan-tation area of Sankda village during the night. The next day their activity increased in the area suggesting some serious poaching was being planned. Three gunshots fired by these poachers were reported by our Village Wildlife Volunteer Battilal Sankda. The DCF was in-formed by our Village Wildlife Volunteers and upon re-ceiving the information, forest staff reached the site and started a search operation. The poachers were identified to be from the Sapotara area and the staff succeeded in arresting one of the poachers, Jitu Bairwa.



3. On 16/1/2020, Ram Singh Mogya and his two com-panions were arrested with a gun. Ramsingh Mogya and his companions used to guard the agricultural fields of villages Dangarwada, Acher and Laxmipura but they also used to poach wild animals at night. As soon as this information was revealed to VWV, they informed the forest department officials and helped in arresting the culprits.



4. Bhairopura Poaching Case

On 21/1/2020, VWV Jagdish, who works in the Bhairopura area, installed a camera trap as usual in the evening, but some poachers came in the night, opened the camera and took the memory card. When Jagdish went to get the camera the next morning, he saw blood lying in front of it and that there was no card inside the camera. But the photo of the poachers was saved in the internal memory of the camera. Three poachers were carrying two spotted deers. This photo was immediately given to the forest department . On the request of the forest

department, the Sawai Madhopur police conducted a raid and caught several individuals after much resistance. During the operation the police fired 50-60 warning shots to control the situation. Ultimately the forest minister and the entire Forest Department enquired about it at a very high level. The state Forest Minister, HOFF, CWLW, CCF, DCF and the ACF visited Tiger Watch's office to understand the ground reality.



5. On April 1, 2020 a camera trap set up on the way to Param ghat captured images of two poachers armed with guns and torches flaunting a poached wild hare around one of the poacher's waists. They were identified to be Mogyia poachers through Tiger Watch's database.



6. Gunpowder Explosives & Poisoning

- I. On 11/2/2020, VWV Roopsingh Gurjar found a mixture of Wheat flour, jaggery and poison near the agricultural fields of Maharo village in the Kailadevi area. This could have been placed for killing wild animals. The VWV immediately informed the forest officials.
- II. On 2/1/2020, An explosive was spotted lying near a leopard pugmark in the Kailadevi area by VWV Roopsingh. He informed his VWV coordinator at once as well as the Forest Dept. and appropriate action was taken. Such bombs are extremely dangerous for both humans and wildlife; this was indeed threatening for an already vulnerable species.
- III. On 8/1/2020, a gun powder explosive was spotted near a waterhole in dhonk ka nala, Kailadevi area by VWV Battilal. He informed his VWV coordinator at once as well as the Forest Dept. and appropriate actions

- was taken.
- IV. On 10/1/2020, three gun powder explosives were spotted near a waterhole in dhonk ka nala, Kailadevi area by VWV Roopsingh. He informed his VWV coordinator at once as well as the Forest Dept. and appropriate action was taken.
- V. On 19/2/2020, A dog died by eating an explosive in the Dolara area. This incident was reported by VWV Dharmraj and he informed his VWV coordinator at once as well as the Forest Dept. and appropriate action was taken.
- VI. On 29/2/2020, a gun powder explosive was spotted near a pond in the Dolara area by VWV Battilal. He informed his VWV coordinator at once as well as the Forest Dept. and appropriate action was taken.

रणथंभौर नेशनल पार्क में कैमरे के शिकार हुए शिकारी जहां हैं 60 बाघ, वहां वन्यजीवों का खुलेआम शिकार

21 जनवरी को शिकार की इस तस्वीर से बरपा हंगामा... सीएम गृहलोट तक पहुंची शिकायत

खुशूरी - रणथंभौर नेशनल पार्क में 9 दिन बाद कैमरा ट्रैप को रिमूव किया गया। चोरी-छिपे हुए और गुप्तता के साथ शिकार।

एडमिशन - पहाड़ी टिकिया 12 बजे तक का पुलिस और वन विभाग ने टी. लेकिन प्रशासकी नहीं मिले। दुकान खुलवा लगे। टी 5 बजे फिर टिकिया देकर दो को वापस। वन्यजीवों में पुलिस और वन विभाग के कर्मचारियों को चोरी हुई।

बड़ा सवाल: 26 मिसिंग बाघ शिकार तो नहीं हो गए ?

युं खुलेआम शिकार के दौरान बाघों के साथ अभ्युत्थान से प्रभाव नहीं पड़ता। रणथंभौर से पिछले 9 साल में 26 बाघ लपका है। हाल ही में इसकी चेकअप रिपोर्ट साफ़र को भेजी गई है। फिर भी शिकार की रिपोर्टों का नहीं। अफसोस की परिस्थिति का अफसोस और उसी अफसोस का ही हिस्सा है। रिपोर्ट टिकिया पर वीक वाइड रणथंभौर से लेकर कर्मचारी तक पहुंची तब ही।

गुरुवार को... शिकारी पकड़ने गई वन-पुलिस टीम पर पथराव, फायर कर बचाई जान

• शिकार के दो आरोपी गिरफ्तार

रणथंभौर नेशनल पार्क में वन्यजीवों को शिकार से जोड़ते हुए दो शिकारियों को गिरफ्तार करने के लिए वन्यजीव पुलिस या वन विभाग की टीम पर शिकारियों ने हमला कर दिया। रणथंभौर पथराव करवाया। पुलिस को

शिकारियों का जबरन बचाया गया। अफसोस की बात है 6 बजे तक ही पकड़ ले गए। रात्रि में 12 बजे तक भी चोरी हुई। वन विभाग की टीम सुबह 5 बजे कार्रवाई के लिए पहुंची थी। बाद में दो शिकारियों को जेल भेजा गया। अफसोस और दुःख की बात है दो शिकारियों

बंदूक सजित भेदात बाघ पर आक्रमण करने लगा। उन्हें गिरफ्तार कर लिया गया। फनरीटी के रोजर ओपनर कोले ने खंडा पुलिस थाने में 29 नमूने भेजे। शिकार करीब 500 मिसिंग-गुप्त के शिकार का शिकार में बाघ जल्दी बचल अन्य भेदातों में बचल करने करवा है।

शिकारी प्रभाव पर निगरानी

इसके बाद वन विभाग की टीम पर पथराव करवाया। पुलिस को



2. Mogya Education Program





MEP students at the 9th Fateh Singh Rathore Memorial Lecture and Conservation Awards

MOGYA EDUCATION PROGRAM

Education is the ability to meet life's situations.-
Dr. John G. Hibben

The Mogyas are a semi-nomadic traditional hunting community from Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh. In the past, they used to accompany local rulers on hunting expeditions and provided protection to crops. After the introduction of the Wildlife Protection Act of 1972, their traditional profession became illegal. The complete lack of other professional skills and formal education resulted in their being relegated to the periphery of the society. However, due to excellent tracking and shooting skills, they were roped into organised wildlife crime. Since the declaration of Ranthambhore as a protected area, law enforcing agencies consider them a threat to wildlife. Tiger Watch, a non-governmental organization (NGO) with the core objective of the protection of wildlife in and around Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve (RTR) since 1998, played an important role in the conservation of tiger in Ranthambhore. Since the very beginning Tiger Watch has been involved in anti-poaching. While doing this work, the need to tackle the long term involvement of the Mogya community in poaching was realized. Due to their semi-nomadic nature of the community, formal education was almost unheard of among the Mogyas. Formal education is the key to opening many doors and breaking free from poverty. Without education, it is difficult to live a life of dignity. Considering the fact that education is a key instrument for social and economic change in society, Tiger Watch decided to educate the Mogyas for the future of both wildlife and the community.

Tiger Watch started the Mogya Education Programme (MEP) in 2006. Most of the students in the program are first generation learners. It was initially difficult to convince members of the Mogya community to enrol their students in the program. In the beginning, there were 9 students, there are now 45 Students from the Mogya community in the program.

The objectives of this education program are:

- 1) Sustain the younger generations of the Mogya community and help them stand toe to toe with their peers and be accepted in conventional society.
- 2) Provide a quality education, which will lead to job opportunities in the mainstream for the community.
- 3) Creating awareness within the community and bridging gaps.
- 4) Guiding them away from their traditional hunting work, therefore weaning them off poaching by providing them with an education.
- 5) Education is an integral part of the Tiger Watch Reform Program, as it would impact the next generations of the community organically after the first generation.

This programme has successfully completed 15 years of growth and progress. We are supported by, Sud Chemie India and Ranthambhore Tiger Conservation Foundation (RTCF).

The MEP is run through a well-equipped hostel facility in Sherpur. The hostel is administered by Mr. Meethalal Gurjar (Warden), who also looks after day to day activities along with Mr Rajesh Gurjar (Assistant Warden). The hostel building has all necessary facilities like a spacious sleeping area, a recreational area and clean washrooms. Students are provided with meals, clothes, sports, school education and extracurricular activities. All of the students in hostel attend private and government and private schools in Kutalpura village. Supplementary classes are conducted in the hostel to improve their understanding of the subjects taught in school. Attention is also provided towards the overall physical and character development of students in the hostel.

The first batch of students has passed out and some of them are pursuing a higher education. Being the first generation learners from their community, this is a tremendous achievement. The former Hon. Chief Minister of Rajasthan Smt. Vasundhara Raje Scindia had visited the MEP hostel and appreciated Tiger Watch's work.

Some of our younger MEP students



NEW ROUTINES:

When Mogya students come to the hostel, the baseline academic level of many students is very poor. Many of them cannot even read or write properly, lack knowledge of cleanliness & personal hygiene, a sense of how to address their teachers & classmates in a tactful way, and a lack of understanding of their responsibilities. On the other hand, when we see the Sustainable Development Goals (SGPs) created by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), it is understood that a good education, healthcare, nutritious food and respect in society are universal needs and should be available to all. Keeping these things in mind, this year, we started things afresh with new routines to develop the educational, social and personal levels of growth in students:

1. TIME TABLE: A time table was created in the hostel to bring a structured routine and an understanding of rules to all students. Under which, students rise at 4 am, bathe and wear their school uniforms and gather at the hostel ground at 7 am. Then all the students gather for prayer and during this time, the warden inspects the uniforms of all the students. After the prayer, all the students go to school after breakfast. After returning from school, in the evening, all the students gather on the hostel grounds to do yoga, sing songs, have an intermediary meal and start their supplementary classes.

2. BOOK READING SESSIONS: We divided all the students into two categories; those who can read Hindi and those who cannot. Students who could read Hindi did not know how to read English, thus an English tutor was kept for them and the same lesson was taught to all students irrespective of their class. On the other hand, many of the younger students couldn't read Hindi. They were also taught the same lesson together. In this activity, each child would come forward in turn and read the text and the other students would follow in their own copies of the said text and help each

other if they made a mistake. After every 15 days, a progress test for students is taken, the students who had learned to read Hindi were given pulses in English class. Gradually, the enthusiasm of all the students to read a good English book also increased and they started getting more conscientious of their responsibilities in school too.

3. **HYGIENE:** All the students living in the hostel have a day off on Sunday and did their laundry and cleaned up. But this year, we started a new activity in which every Sunday, students will clean a part of the hostel building and participate in small household activities such as cutting vegetables and making tea. We believe it produces a tremendous sense of responsibility and teamwork, all important steps towards integrating

into mainstream society.

4. **COMPUTER CLASSES:** Computer classes were arranged for the students to elevate their interest in information technology. Tiger Watch's accountant Mr. Deepak Sahu came to the hostel regularly from November 2019 to February 2020 between 4:00pm to 5:30pm to teach basic Microsoft Office applications. The younger students were able grasp Birmap images and paint but the older students took to typing, wifi techniques, operating gmail etc. This regular practice helped them gain some command of computers, which is necessary as information technology is vital to a comprehensive education.-



Reformed poacher Bhajan Lal Bawariya along with his sons enrolled in the MEP, Karan and Dilkush

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES:

1. **Wildlife week celebration:** On the occasion of Wildlife Week (7th oct 2019). The Mogya students were invited to the Rajiv Gandhi Natural History Museum for a quiz competition and for celebration. The students took part in the quiz along with students of other regional schools. The quiz was based on basic environmental knowledge and the wildlife of Ranthambhore. Surprisingly our students from the primary classes participated enthusiastically and secured the 3rd position. The following students were awarded- Sankar Bawaria, Dashram Bawaria and Dilkhush Bawaria.



3. **Wildlife Mimicry Competition:** In Dec 2019 a mimicry competition was organised by the Rajiv Gandhi Natural History Museum team in the MEP hostel. But this time our young students were on fire and they amazed everybody by their acting and mimicry skills. The students not just mimicked tigers but they also made the distress calls of different animals & birds, such as Cheetal, Koel, Dove, Pigeon, Cat, Jackals and Monkeys. In this activity the students demonstrated their nuanced understanding of wildlife and also won exciting prizes. The winners in this competition were Sankar Bawaria, Dashram Bawaria and Dhanraj Bawaria.

4. **Jaipur Study tour:** “Play is our Brain’s favourite way of learning” The students of the MEP were taken for a picnic to Jaipur (7th Jan 2020). The students visited many important and historical places. The first place students went to explore was Amer fort, where they observed the place with curiosity and learned about their reason and importance in the historical timeline of India. They also attended a fundraising cricket match by FATEH , a Jaipur based, high school student led non-profit which hopes to provide solar lighting to a 100 Mogya homes around Ranthambore.

2. **Green Goods dates Celebration & Competition** Organized by the Natural History Museum: On 15th Nov 2019 , a quiz competition and prize distribution ceremony was organized on the subject of “Our Nature” by the Rajiv Gandhi Natural History Museum team. All of the Mogya students watched some audio visual clips related to nature & wildlife and about our responsibilities towards nature. They were then asked questions related to those visual clips. The students presented their understanding of nature & wildlife taught by schools and books. In the competitions a total of 6 students were awarded; Dilkhush Bawaria, Sankar Bawaria, Kapil Bawaria, Vishnu Bawaria, Abhishek Bawaria and Pradhaan Bawaria.



MEP students during a visit to Jaipur

5. Block Printing Activity at Dhonk: On 3rd Feb 2020, students from our Mogya Education Program visited Dhonk Craft for a fun hand block printing session where they got to experiment with t-shirts which they took home as souvenirs. They were led around the premises and observed the staff working there. They also demonstrated their singing talent to Dhonk staff.



6. Wildlife Awareness Workshop & Tour: An environment awareness tour and workshop was organised by the Ranthambhore Foundation for the Mogya students. The students were taken to the Natural History Museum where they saw and understood the exhibits on display. Then kids visited Sitamata Temple and after which a talk and interactive discussion about the environment and the need for conservation. They were told of the benefits and services we receive from forest such as food, fuel wood etc. The students were then served lunch and the workshop concluded with a recognition of the most enthusiastic students in the batch.



ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE:

Many of the students, when they come to the hostel have a very poor academic record. Many of them can't even read or write properly. Every student's academic progress is continuously monitored by the staff at the MEP hostel, who stay in the hostel with the students, day and night. Every day two, hours of supplementary classes are conducted at the hostel. As a result, all of the students have cleared their exams. 25 students have obtained letter grade 'A' and 15 letter grade 'B'.

S.n	Name	Father` Name	Class	Percentage (Grade)
1	Sunil Bawaria	Shri Rakesh Bawaria	1	B
2	Goverdhan Bawaria	Shri Sumer singh Bawaria	1	A
3	Golu Bawaria	Shri Ashok Bawaria	1	A
4	Toffan Bawaria	Shri Ramsavroop Bawaria	1	A
5	Dheeraj Bawaria	Shri Malkhan Bawaria	2	B
6	Chetan Bawaria	Shri Kesav Bawaria	2	B
7	Satveer Bawaria	Shri Jugraj Bawaria	2	B
8	Dasram Bawaria	Shri Jugraj Bawaria	2	B
9	Bharat Bawaria	Shri Pratap singh Bawaria	2	A
10	Aakash Bawaria	Shri Ashok Bawaria	2	A
11	Kuldeep Bawaria	Shri Banwari Bawaria	2	A
12	Kamal Bawaria	Shri Ashok Bawaria	3	B
13	Balram Bawaria	Shri Ashok Bawaria	3	A
14	Shanker Bawaria	Shri Kalu Bawaria	3	A
15	Lokesh Bawaria	Shri Ramparsad Bawaria	3	B
16	Dilkush Bawaria	Shri Ramparsad Bawaria	3	A
17	Aashu Bawaria	Shri Shetan singh Bawaria	3	A
18	Ram Bawaria	Shri Shetan singh Bawaria	3	A
19	Sachin Bawaria	Shri Pappu Lal Bawaria	3	B
20	Dhanraj Bawaria	Shri Ramparsad Bawaria	3	A
21	Manish Bawaria	Shri Kailash Bawaria	3	B
22	Deepak Bawaria	Shri Roop singh Bawaria	3	B
23	Vishnu Bawaria	Shri Kesav Bawaria	3	A
24	Suraj Mal Bawaria	Shri Ramparsad Bawaria	4	A
25	Harimohan Bawaria	Shri Ramparsad Bawaria	4	A
26	Vinod Bawaria	Shri Pappu Lal Bawaria	4	A
27	Arjun Bawaria	Shri Balendra Bawaria	4	A
28	Karan Bawaria	Shri Bhajan Lal Bawaria	4	A
29	Sonu Bawaria	Shri Ramsavroop Bawaria	4	B
30	Kalu Bawaria	Shri Ramsavroop Bawaria	4	B

31	Kapil Bawaria	Shri Roop singh Bawaria	6	A
32	Mahendra Bawaria	Shri Pappu Lal Bawaria	6	A
33	Dildar Bawaria	Shri Phalwan Bawaria	7	A
34	Dhanraj Bawaria	Shri Chouthmal Bawaria	7	A
35	Omparkash Bawaria	Shri Kesav Bawaria	8	B
36	Roshan Bawaria	Shri Sualal Bawaria	8	B
37	Vishnu Bawaria	Shri Balendra Bawaria	8	B
38	Rahul Bawaria	Shri Nalendra Bawaria	8	A
39	Dilkush Bawaria	Shri Bhajan Lal Bawaria	8	A
40	Pradhan Bawaria	Shri Sualal Bawaria	9	A
41	Abhisekh Bawaria	Shri Puran Mal Bawaria	10	74.33%

INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENTS

1. Vishnu Bawaria “The Carom Champion”: Vishnu Bawaria, a student of class 8 represented his school at a district level carom championship and was able to reach up till the semi-finals. He went to Sujangarh, Churu district for the championship with his school teachers. Academically, he is an average student, yet precocious in nature therefore we used to call him “Intelligent” by name. With our support and motivation he is now more focused towards his studies and more motivated towards building a good future for himself and his family.
2. Dilkush Bawaria “The Artist”: At Mrs Divya Khandal's suggestion; Dilkush Bawaria, enrolled in our Mogya Education Program, has been attending extracurricular classes at the Ranthambore School of Art for the 6 months, further honing his prodigious skill. We are proud to say that his work speaks for itself!
3. Abhishek Bawaria “The Scholar”: The senior most student in the present batch is Abhishek Bawaria. He passed his 10th class board exams in the first division (74.33 % marks). He was not only good in mathematics but an all rounder and scored the highest marks in Hindi language(94%). He now aspires to receive vocational training in mechanics.



During an extracurricular team activity

3. Community Support

Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve is a landscape surrounded by humans and is under great anthropological pressure. Tiger Watch's interventions are entirely dependent on the participation of local communities. Due to its proximity to the Tiger Reserve, the community also faces a variety of difficulties. But despite difficulties, people fully participate in conservation. Thus we should also help the community. Realizing this, Tiger Watch supports the community in various ways, so that they are encouraged and connected with us.





1. Bagh Mitra School Programme

Tiger Watch, started the ‘Bagh Mitra School Program’. In which Tiger Watch provided basic infrastructure like furniture and also built libraries in 20 schools on the peripheries of Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve. Select wildlife conservation friendly literature in Hindi will also be provided to these libraries by the publishing group Ektara. All of the material was worth INR 10 lac (50000 for

each school). Its a Tiger Watch initiative to connect with local schools and to raise awareness for wildlife conservation by educating school kids. This program is the vision of Dr. G.V. Reddy, Head of Forest Forces, Rajasthan and Sh. Valmik Thapar.



Dr. GV Reddy presenting Bagh Mitra School programme support letter to the school representatives

Selected schools				
1. Kotalpura	5. Talawada	9. Sanwata	13. Talda	17. Banpur
2. Shyampur	6. Khidarpur -J	10. Bhavpur	14. Ramsinghpura	18. Gopalpura
3. Bhadlav	adon 7. Talawada	11. Mai	15.Lundawadai	19. Padra Visthapan
4. Naypur	8. Gothbihari	12. Maharo	16. Fariya	20. MEP



श्री फ़तेह सिंह राठौड़ स्मृति दिवस कार्यक्रम 2020

बाघ मित्र विद्यालय

टाइगर वॉच - रणथम्भौर

बाघों की भूमि रणथम्भौर आज बाघ एवं वन्यजीव संरक्षण के लिए पूरे विश्व में प्रसिद्ध है। इसके आसपास रहने वाले सभी समुदायों के लोगो ने निरंतर इसके विकास और संवर्धन के लिए अपना सम्पूर्ण योगदान दिया है। यही कारण है की आज रणथम्भौर बाघों सहित कई अन्य वन्यजीवों के लिए एक महत्वपूर्ण पर्यावास बन पाया है। इसी क्रम में प्रसिद्ध बाघ विशेषज्ञ श्री बाल्मीक थापर एवं हेड ऑफ़ फारेस्ट फोर्सेज - डॉ. जी.वी. रेड्डी की प्रेरणा से टाइगर वॉच द्वारा रणथम्भौर बाघ अभ्यारण्य के आस पास स्थित गाँवों के विद्यालयों के विकास के लिए एक विशेष योजना - “ बाघ मित्र विद्यालय ” कार्यक्रम का शुभारम्भ किया है। जिसके अंतर्गत इन विद्यालयों में अध्ययनरत छात्र-छात्राओं के सर्वांगीण विकास हेतु आधारभूत सुविधाएं, खेलकूद सामग्री एवं ज्ञानवर्धक पुस्तिकाएं उपलब्ध करवायी जायेंगी।

टाइगर वॉच रणथम्भौर

+91 9001507777

बाघ मित्र विद्यालय कार्यक्रम सहयोगकर्ता

S U J A N

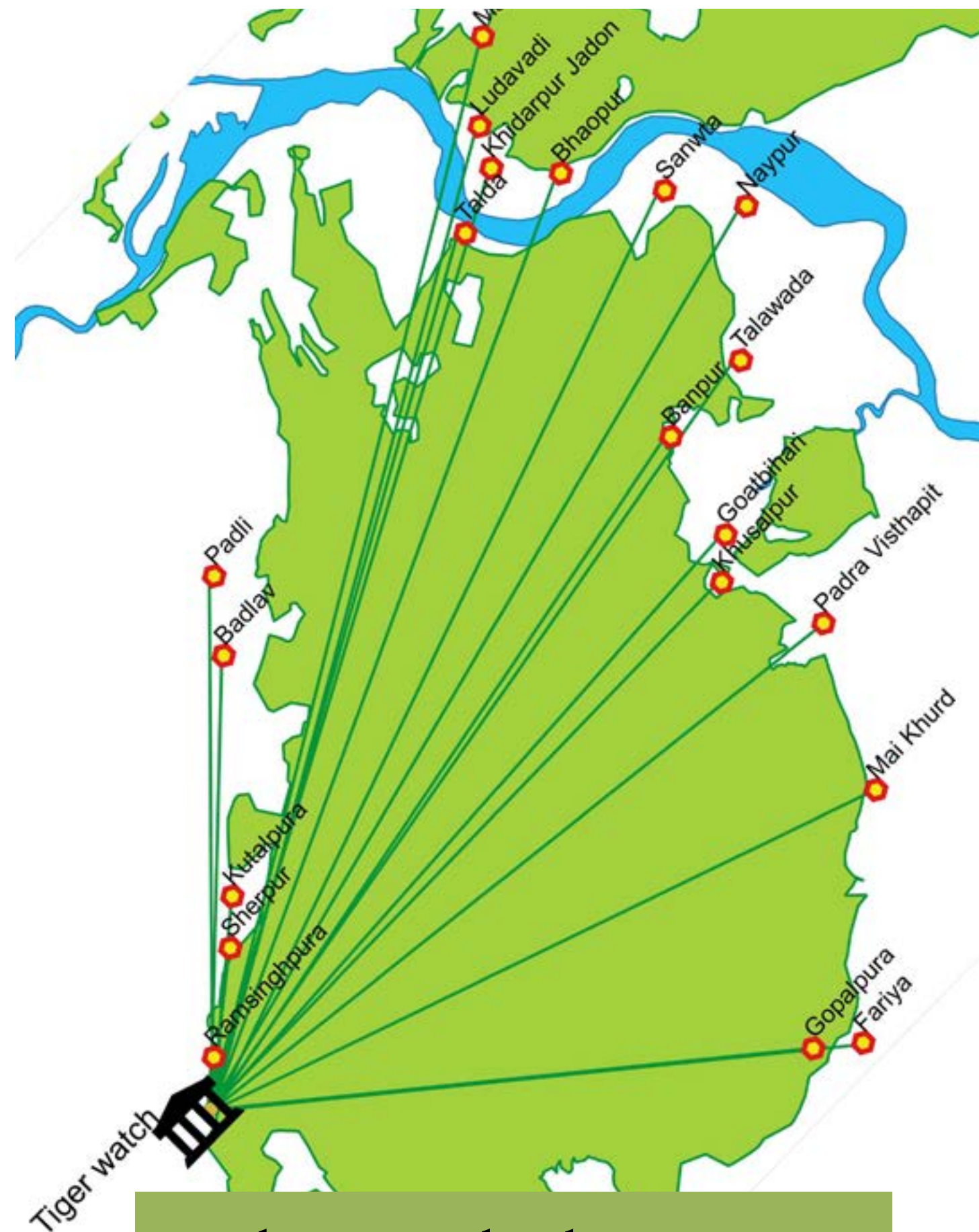
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GOLCHA FOUNDATION

SÜD-CHEMIE

CREATING PERFORMANCE TECHNOLOGY



Bagh Mitra School Programme

2. Auxiliary Network Around Ranthambhore

Tiger-Watch wildlife monitoring team- Village Wildlife Volunteers rely on local community members for crucial actionable information on the movement of tigers, antipoaching & human wildlife conflict outside the protected areas of Ranthambhore. Many such local community members have slowly evolved into tremendous wildlife warriors in their own right. We have now begun to formalize their participation through an aux-

iliary network, an additional community led frontline in the protection of Ranthambore's wildlife. Therefore Tiger Watch felicitated all of our network members (150 members) by gifting them a small kit of daily utilities (150 kits). The birth of the auxiliary network would not be possible without Mr. Abhimanyu Golcha & the Golcha Foundation.



3. Great Indian Bustard Conservation Support

In 2019, Tiger watch supported a “Great Indian Bustard Convation Education Program” under which financial assistance is being pro-vided by Tiger Watch to a Jaisalmer based organization called the Godavan Conservation Society (GCS). This institution works for GIB & environmental education and conserva-tion in schools located around the Desert National Park. The main objective of the fund is to initiate Environmental education among school students to raise awareness about sur-rounding ecosystem & wildlife and to increase understanding about the importance of its conservation. It is very important to make students aware about the environment and the protection of wildlife because Today’s students are tomorrow’s leaders. Environmen-tal education among school students can create a great awareness about the surround-ing environment, Wildlife and their impor-tance for the survival of mankind. Therefore, Tiger Watch initiated the environmental education pro-gram among the school students of Desert National Park by appointing a special teacher. This teacher has been going to the local school since November to ed-ucate and motivate students for the surrounding envi-ronment, wildlife and their conservation. The teacher

goes to one school every day and take class in which he talks to students about desert ecosystem & wildlife in sur-rounding area and their importance, thus every month about three to four classes are organized in every school. With this education program, we are di-rectly educating 2,112 students. The seminal amount for the Godavan Conservation Fund was INR 5 lac and was made possible by Jaisal Singh & Anjali Singh of SUJAN and Mr Iskandar Laljee of Sud-Chemie. Tiger Watch has also sponsored basic maintenance and wildlife paintings in the classrooms of these 10 schools of Desert National Park. A Tiger Watch project officer has visited all 10 schools in which the environment education program was going on and it was ob-served that the students and teachers are taking interest and understanding the sur-round-ing environment, importance of wild animals and conservation. In Jan 2020, Ms. Meenu Dakad, Assis-tant Conservation Biologist of Tiger Watch went to Jaisalmer to meet the team working there and visited all the sschool. She took interactive sessions in two schools where she talked about wildlife of the desert area and she also gave inputs on how to make learn-ing more interesting.



A school in the desert area before and after the support of Tiger Watch.

Name of Schools supported by TW

- 1 Govt. Sr. Secondary School (Kanoi0
- 2 Govt. Pr. School (Gaanga)
- 3 Govt. upper Primary School (Nimba)
- 4 Govt. Sr. Secondary School (Bidha)
- 5 Govt. Pr. School (Chauhani)
- 6 Govt. Upper Primary School (Barna)
- 7 Govt. Sr. Secondary School (Sipla)
- 8 Govt. Upper Primary School (Kumbhar kota)
- 9 Govt. Upper Primary School (Ghuriya)
- 10 Govt. Upper Primary School (Jamda)

*Total 2,112 students are getting benifit of the support

4. Keystone Species Plantation Drive

Tiger Watch is planting keystone species of trees around Ranthambhore. Few years back we planted 25 Banyan saplings with the help of the VWV team. This year we planted 50 Banyan saplings with help of a local youth group- led by Mr. Roop Singh Meena and Mr. Raja Babu. All of the team

members were from Ramsinghpura and Madhosinghpura villages, which are on the boundaries of Ranthambhore. These trees are well protected by iron meshes. The exercise cost approx INR 50 thousand.



Plantation of banyan saplings with help of a local youth group

5. Mogya Women's Workshop

Tiger Watch organised a gathering of Mogya women and girls. In the gathering Mrs. Divya Khandal had a talk with them about their education and career preferences. They motivated them to get an education and requested their parents to send them to school. The Mogya females then met with the women work-

ing at Dhonk and some of the curious girls showed their interest in learning the skills on display there. After the discussion Tiger Watch gifted a total of 50 kits (Bag, cloth, stationary, grocery items) to the girls.



6. Support during COVID

- 1. Color Printer to a school: Tiger Watch donated a Hp laser-jet color printer worth of rupees 18000 to the Govt. Sr.Sec-ondary School, Kanoi, Jaisalmer. During Ms. Meenu Dhakad's trip to Jaisalmer, she visited this school and the teachers there requested a printer because the school has around 300 girls studying there and they face problems reach-ing printing facilities in village areas when they need to print important documents for board exams and various other educational purposes
- 2. Mission Beat Plastic: Tiger Watch gave financial support to Mission Beat Plastic around Ranthambhore. The implement-ing authority Mr. Roopsing Meena and his team organized several cleanliness drives near the Amreshwar temple and route heading towards the Ganesh temple.
- 3. COVID-19 Relief Dund: After the outbreak of COVID-19, Tiger Watch donated a sum of INR 1 Lac to the District Administration to support the relief effort in the fight against COVID-19.



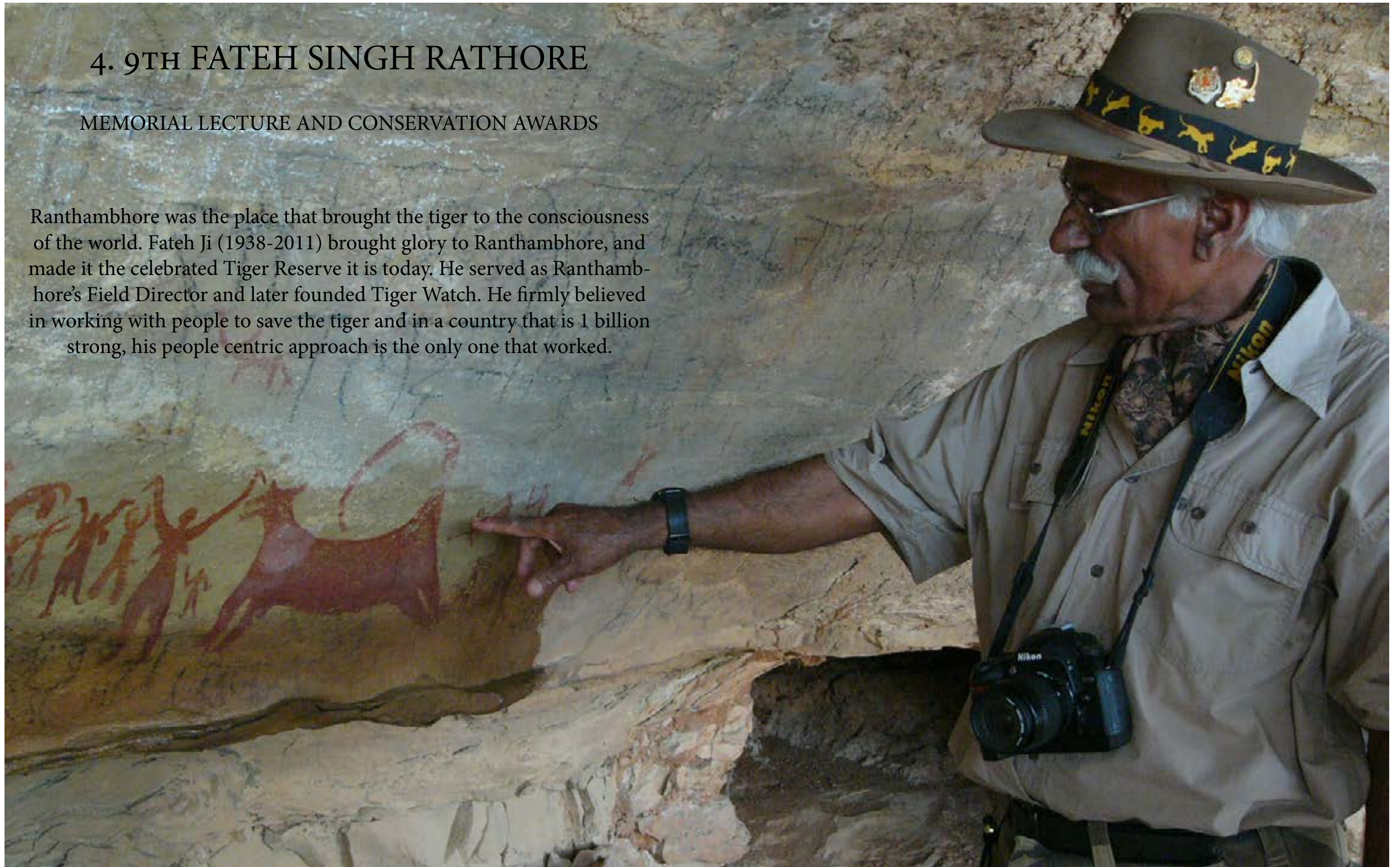
- 4. Self hygiene kit distribution: With the help of the Village Wildlife Volunteers, Tiger Watch distributed 3000 packets of soap in 30 villages on the peripheries of Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve in an effort to bolster the fight against covid 19. They have also provided instructions on how to wash hands correctly and other precautionary measures.



4. 9TH FATEH SINGH RATHORE

MEMORIAL LECTURE AND CONSERVATION AWARDS

Ranthambhore was the place that brought the tiger to the consciousness of the world. Fateh Ji (1938-2011) brought glory to Ranthambhore, and made it the celebrated Tiger Reserve it is today. He served as Ranthambhore's Field Director and later founded Tiger Watch. He firmly believed in working with people to save the tiger and in a country that is 1 billion strong, his people centric approach is the only one that worked.



9TH FATEH SINGH RATHORE MEMORIAL LECTURE AND CONSERVATION AWARDS

On 1st of March, 2020, Tiger Watch Ranthambhore hosted the 9th Fateh Singh Rathore Memorial Lecture and Conservation Awards at the Fateh Public School in Sawai Madhopur. We organise this event every year to celebrate the life and work of our late founder Sh. Fateh Singh Rathore. The award ceremony was initiated by Fateh ji himself in 2006. It was his way of providing a platform to recognise the outstanding work done by people locally and other parts in India to help further the cause of wildlife conservation. After the demise of Fateh Ji in 2011, we decided to continue this award program as a part of his abiding legacy. We seize this opportunity to honor people for their contributions in saving and protecting wildlife in the state of Rajasthan.

This year, we were joined by Dr. G.V. Reddy, IFS-Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Head of Forest Forces, Rajasthan who shared his experiences with Fateh Ji and the conservation of tigers in his keynote address. Sh. Ritesh Sarothiya, a Forest Officer from Madhya Pradesh shared his extensive experiences of pan-India anti-poaching operations which helped conserve the tigers of Ranthambhore when in crisis. Sh. Valmik Thapar, one of Ranthambhore's pioneering tiger conservationists and arguably India's foremost tiger expert also gave a passionate address and provided special comments. Special participants also included Mr. Arijit Banerjee, Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Rajasthan; Mr. Jaisal Singh of SUJAN; Mr. Abhimanyu Golcha of the Golcha Foundation, board member of Tiger Watch; Mr. Punit Lalbhai of the Shree Kasturbhai Lalbhai Vatsalya Nidhi, board member of Tiger Watch; Mr. Ashutosh Mahadevia, secretary, Tiger Watch and Dr. Goverdhan Singh Rathore, Vice Chairman of Tiger Watch. The ceremony was led and presided over by Dr. Dharmendra Khandal, Director & Conservation Biologist, Tiger Watch.

Dr. Dharmendra Khandal, introduced all the board members along with other guests present at the event. It is also a day we express our gratitude towards our funders, friends and supporters who continue to stand by us in our endeavor to uphold the cause of conservation. Those present were Fatehji's family members, Tiger Watch board members, officials of the Forest Department, students of the MEP

and people who knew him from all over the world. The program started with the ritual garlanding the portrait of Fateh Singh Ji by his family members including his son Dr. Govardhan Singh Rathore, and his daughter, Padmini Singh Rathore. The Award function formally began with Dr. Rathore, welcoming all the guests & board members. On this note, Ishan Dhar (board member) introduced team "FATEH" a Jaipur based NGO of/by Students, for their charitable project NOOR and for donating solar lights to Mogya families. Project NOOR aims at lighting the lives of about a thousand villagers by installing 100 solar panels. To appreciate their efforts all team members of FATEH were awarded. Moving forward Dr. Khandal introduced the Bagh Mitra School Program and announced the donation of 50 banyan trees for plantation. Then Mr. Valmik Thapar an Indian naturalist, conservationist, writer and friend of the TIGER MAN emphasised the need for wildlife conservation citing mass outbreak of COVID-19 having animal origins. He was all praises for Tiger Watch's initiative to recognise and reward people working for nature and its conservation from different parts of the country. According to him, such events provide moral support and boost enthusiasm in society. He was hopeful that the event, in the future, might gain national recognition and he then introduced Dr. Reddy and appreciated his work and dedication towards wildlife. Dr. G.V. Reddy shared his experiences and learnings from late Shri Fateh Singh Ji. He recalled an instance when Fateh Ji used his presence of mind to silence US president Bill Clinton. Mr. Clinton had a question regarding Peafowls being native to India or were they brought from Persia/ Middle East by the Mughals, Fateh Ji replied they are indigenous, we have references from Indian texts dating to the Vedic period. We honoured Bharatpur based wildlifer Shri 'Bholu' Abrar Khan with the State Level Lifetime Wildlife Conservation Award along with the Rs. 71000 INR. Former ACF of the Jodhpur forest department Dr. Satish Sharma was honoured with the Sujan Rajasthan Lifetime Wildlife Conservation Award with Rs. 71000 INR. VWV coordinator Mr. Harimohan Gurjar was presented The Sujan Wildlife Conservation Award with award money amounting to Rs. 31000 INR. An Indian Armed Forces officer posted in Jaisalmer district, Col. Vikram Singh Rathore

was awarded with The John Singh State Level Nature Conservation Award along with a sum of Rs. 31000 INR. An organising officer of the Special Task Force for Wildlife Mr. Ritesh Sarothiya was awarded with The Sujan Wildlife Award with a cash award of ₹ 31000. Then head of the Department of Environmental Sciences at Maharaja Ganga Singh University, Bikaner Prof. Anil Kumar Chhangani, Dr. Himanshu Vyas a veterinary officer at the Bikaner Veterinary College, Dr. Dau Lal Bohra head of the Department of Zoology at Seth GB Poddar University, Nawalgarh, Mr. Virendra Singh Bedsa a lecturer in a Government school, Mr. Ashok Kumar Sharma a Wildlife Warden in Talada Range Ranthambhore, Mr. Ramveer Gurjar forest guard in Kailadevi Range and Mr. Sawarmal Jat a forest guard in the National Chambal Sanctuary, all were awarded by with The State Level Wildlife Conservation Award along with a sum of Rs. 10000 INR each. Tiger watch also gave 5 binoculars to Mr. Dharendra Devarishi.

Launch of Bagh Mitra School program: Tiger Watch, started the 'Bagh Mitra School Program'. In which

Tiger Watch provided basic infrastructure like furniture and also built libraries in 20 schools on the peripheries of Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve. Select wildlife conservation friendly literature in Hindi will also be provided to these libraries by the publishing group Ektara. This program is the vision of Dr. G.V. Reddy, Head of Forest Forces, Rajasthan and Sh. Valmik Thapar.

Launch of Rajasthan Biodiversity Website: Tiger Watch has incrementally worked towards building a pan-Rajasthan approach towards wildlife conservation and has recognized the need for a, 'Rajasthan Biodiversity Network'. The network seeks to consolidate ongoing conservation efforts for key umbrella species across fragile landscapes in the state of Rajasthan and thus seeks to engage the most dynamic individuals for the purpose.



Tiger expert Sh. Valmik Thapar addressing the gathering



Dr. GV Reddy, PCCF & HOFF, Rajasthan delivering the keynote address



A captivated audience



1. Shri ‘Bholu’ Abrar Khan (The State Level Lifetime Wildlife Conservation Award2020 along with INR. 71000/-)

A resident of Bharatpur, ‘Bholu’ Abrar Khan works at theKeoladeo National Park. He developed an in-terest in birds and theconservation of wildlife while his father was posted at the National Park. He has worked with theBird Man of India, Salim Ali. He has worked with many national and international or-ganisations for the conservation of birds.



Shri ‘Bholu’ Abrar Khan being presented The State Level Lifetime Wildlife Conservation Award2020 along with the Rs. 71000 award money by Dr. Govardhan Singh Rathore.

2. Dr. Satish Sharma (The Sujan Rajasthan Lifetime Wildlife Conservation Award 2020, INR 71000/-)

Working withthe Rajasthan state Forest Department, Dr.Sharma,fromAlwar, has done commendable work in the conservation of wildlife. Whilst working entirely on the Flora of Rajasthan he has coined or rather formed a new branch called Ornitho-botany, dealing with the behaviour of birds’ in relation to plants. For his wildlife conservation interventions, he was felicitated with the Priyadarshini Vriksh Mitra by the Indian Government in 1998. He has published over 600 research papers.



Dr. Satish Sharma being presented The Sujan Rajasthan Lifetime Wildlife Conservation Award 2020with an award money of Rs. 71000/- by Mr. Jaisal Singh, Member State Wildlife Board and Standing Committee for Wildlife- Rajasthan.

3. Mr. Harimohan Gurjar (The Sujan Wildlife Conservation Award 2020, Rs. 31000/-)

Harimohan, from Guwadi, Karauli, joined Tiger Watch five years ago. He helped the Forest Department in finding tiger T-104, recognised for conflict with humans. He is leading a team of 10 Village Wildlife Volunteers in the Kailadevi Wildlife Sanctuary. He has guided the Forest Department in conducting anti-poaching raids. He has provided primary support to many research projects by providing field data on the Mogya traditional hunting tribe population, anthropogenic pressure in Kailadevi Wildlife Sanctuary and Wolves in the Kailadevi Wildlife Sanctuary



Mr. Harimohan Gurjar is being presented The Sujan Wildlife Conservation Award 2020 with award money Rs. 31000/- by Mr. Jaisal Singh, Member State Wildlife Board and Standing Committee for Wildlife- Rajasthan.

4.Col. Vikram Singh Rathore (The John Singh State Level Nature Conservation Award 2020 Rs.31000/-)

Colonel Vikram Singh Rathore is currently serving as commanding officer in 128 Infantry Battalion, Raj-putana Rifles (territorial army). Colonel Rathore has done commendable work while working on various projects in the Eco Task Force (ETF), formed in 1983 with an objective of planting trees along the Indira Gandhi canal. Since 1983, 17.5 million seedlings have been planted over an area of 19000 hectares in Amrapur and Mohangarh region of Jaisalmer with a 85-90 % success rate. It is due to his effort-that about a million seed balls of Tecomella (Rohida), Prosopis cineraria (Khejari), Lasiurus scindicus (Sewan grass) were prepared and planted. His Battalion has been recognised at the national level and has been awarded by many organisations for their plantation work.



Col. Vikram Singh Rathore is receiving The John Singh State Level Nature Conservation Award 2020 along with a sum of Rs. 31000/- from Mr. Samir Singh SP, Anti- Corruption Bureau.

5.Mr. Ritesh Sarothiya, (The Sujan Wildlife Award 2020 Rs. 31000/-)

Mr. Sarothiya is from Bhopal and is an organising officer of the Special Task Force for Wildlife apart from being a Deputy Conservator of Forests with the Madhya Pradesh government. He emphasises on using technology for the conservation of wildlife and has worked with many international organisations. For his conservation interventions he is regularly awarded by many governments and other reputed NGOs.



Shri Ritesh Sarothiya is receiving The Sujan Wildlife Award 2020 with cash award of ₹ 31000 presented by Mr. Arijit Banerjee sir APCCF- Rajasthan.

6.Prof. Anil Kumar Chhangani, (The State Level Wildlife Conservation Award 2020 Rs 10000/-)

Professor Chhangani, a resident of Bikaner, is currently the head of the Department of Environmental Sciences at Maharaja Ganga Singh University. He is also the honorary director of an NGO called ParyawaranParbandhan. He has done extensive studies in the fields of biodiversity and the environment. His work has been published in many reputed journals. He is an honorary member of the IUCN and has guided many students in scientific research. He is the advisor to the forest department of Uttar Pradesh for the conservation of vultures. He has also advised on many documentaries on environmental protection. He has been awarded the Marwar Ratna award along with many other national and international awards.



Prof. Anil Chhangani is receiving The State Level Wildlife Conservation Award 2020 with cash award of Rs. 10000/- presented by Mr. Mukesh Saini, DFO, RTR- Rajasthan

7.Dr. Himanshu Vyas, (State Level Wildlife Conservation Award 2020 Rs. 10000/-)

Dr. Himanshu Vyas is currently working as a veterinary officer at the Udaipur zoo. A committed Wildlife enthusiast, Vyas has done a commendable service since childhood in the Sajjangarh Biological Park, Udaipur. He made many contributions to the rehabilitation of tigers and many other creatures. He played an important role in diagnosing and treating the conflict tiger T-24 of Ranthambhore and various other animals. He is respected as a veterinarian by the government and other prestigious institutions.



Dr. Himanshu Vyas is receiving State Level Wildlife Conservation Award 2020 with cash award of Rs. 10000/- presented by Mr. Manoj Parashar FD-RTR- Rajasthan

8.Dr. Dau Lal Bohra, (The State Level Wildlife Conservation Award 2020 presented Rs.10000/-)

Dr. Dau Lal Bohra, a resident of Bikaner, works as head of the Department of Zoology at Seth GB Poddar University, Nawalgarh, Rajasthan. He has primarily worked for the conservation of the desert ecosystem. Currently he is working on the conservation of bats in the Shekhawati region. He has emphasised cleaning rural areas utilising natural resources. He studied the behaviour of predatory birds, the effects of diclofenac, and also worked for their conservation. In North-West Rajasthan and the Terai, Uttar Pradesh he has worked for the conservation of vultures. He is associated with the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA), Wildlife Health Specialist Group (WHSB).



Dr. Daulal Bohra is receiving The State Level Wildlife Conservation Award 2020 presented with cash award of Rs. 10000/- by Mr. YK Sahu, Retired CCF, Rajasthan.

9.Mr. Virendra Singh Bedsa, (Wildlife Conservation Award 2020 Rs. 10000/-)

Virendra Singh, resident of Dungarpur, is engaged in wildlife conservation as a lecturer in a Government school. He has provided primary treatment to many injured animals and restored various snakes to their natural habitat. He has also made significant efforts to stop poaching in the Vagad region. He is associated with many reputed organisations related to the protection of the environment and has been honoured on several occasions by various governments and NGOs



Mr. Virendra Bedsha is receiving Wildlife Conservation Award 2020 with cash award of Rs. 10000/- presented by Mr. Giriraj Singh Kushwaha, IAS, (Retd).

10.Mr. Ashok Kumar Sharma, (Wildlife Conservation Award 2020 Rs. 10000/-)

Mr. Ashok Kumar Sharma is presently working as a Wildlife Warden in the Malrana Check post in Talada Range. He has freed and fenced 200 bighas (approx. 50 hectares) of forest area from illegal encroachment during the year 2019-20. His other notable work includes arresting poachers, confiscating a sloth bear from a juggler and keeping a check on illegal mining activities in the area.



Mr. Ashok Kumar Sharma is receiving Wildlife Conservation Award 2020 with cash award of Rs. 10000/- presented by Sh. Balendu Singh.

11.Mr. Ramveer Gurjar, (Wildlife Conservation Award 2020 Rs. 10000/-)
Posted as a forest guard at the Rahar check post in Kailadevi Range, Kailadevi Wildlife Sanctuary. Ramvir is tracking tiger T-80 and monitoring his activities and kills in Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve since November 2019.



Mr. Ramveer Gurjar is receiving Wildlife Conservation Award 2020 with cash award of Rs. 10000/- presented by Sh. Kalyan Singh Bhayal

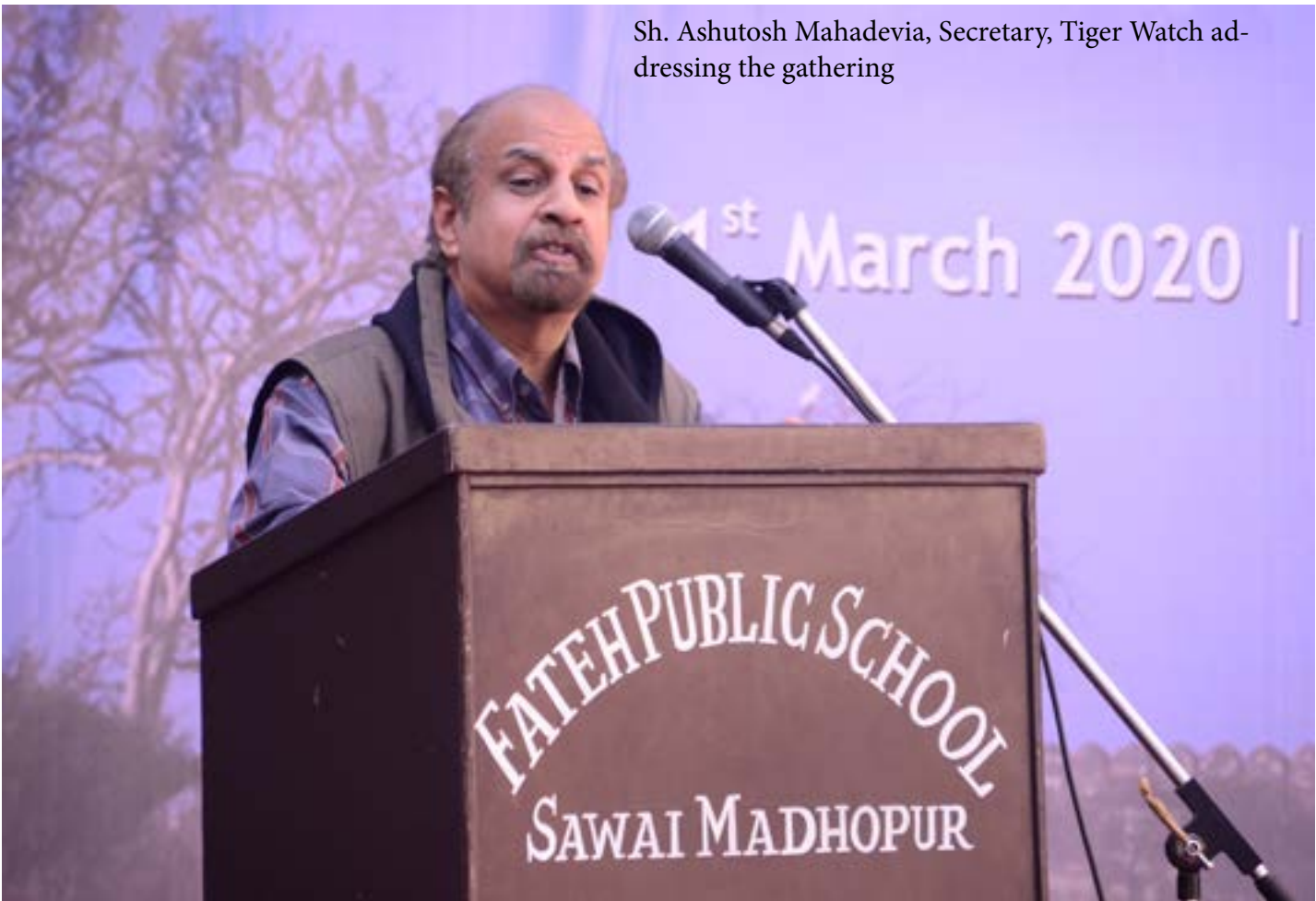
12.Mr. Sawarmal Jat, (Wildlife Conservation Award 2020 Rs. 10000/-)

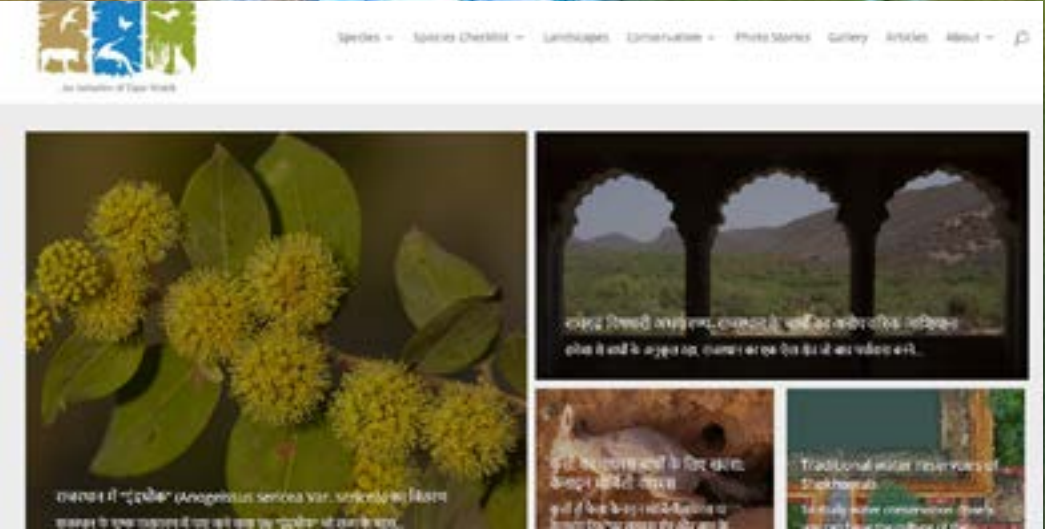
Shri Sawarmal Jat, a forest guard in Palighat range in the National Chambal Sanctuary, has worked for the conservation of the Gharial. During the years 2016-18, while he was posted at the Maharajpura check post in Mandrayal range, he helped combat illegal mining all the while guarding Gharial nesting sites. He is continuously working for the conservation of nature.



Mr. Sawarmal Jat is receiving Wildlife Conservation Award 2020 with cash award of Rs. 10000/- presented by Sh. Kishore Singh Rathore, younger brother of our late founder Sh. Fateh Singh Rathore.

Sh. Ashutosh Mahadevia, Secretary, Tiger Watch addressing the gathering





5. Rajasthan Biodiversity Website

Supported by





Rajasthan Biodiversity

The importance of Rajasthan's biodiversity simply cannot be overstated. An ecosystem's biodiversity reflects the health of that particular ecosystem. Each species, no matter how big or small has an extremely important role to play. It is on the services of these very ecosystems on which our existence is dependent. The state's rich biodiversity is a reflection of the wide variety of ecosystems found in Rajasthan and it provides the perfect impetus for their protection.

Tiger Watch has incrementally worked towards building a pan-Rajasthan approach towards wildlife conservation and has recognized the need for a, 'Rajasthan Biodiversity Network'. The network seeks to consolidate on going conservation efforts for key umbrella species across fragile landscapes in the state of Rajasthan and thus seeks to engage the most dynamic individuals for the purpose.

Activity

1.) Conservation: Consolidating key conservation efforts in the state of Rajasthan is the primary raison d'être for the Rajasthan Biodiversity Network. There are multiple conservation efforts being led across the state from those focused on the Tiger in Ranthambhore to the perilously close to extinction, Great Indian Bustard in the Desert National Park. All are of equal importance to their ecosystems and all credible efforts to conserve them will be made a part of a broader narrative.

2.) Exploration: The implication of focusing on umbrella species is that a multitude of ecosystems across fragile landscapes will be protected. This

will include pioneering and ground breaking research expeditions across landscapes in Rajasthan. Any conservation interventions emanating from the net-work will be the most scientifically informed to date.

3.) Awareness: Awareness is the 3rd pillar of the network. All of the network's findings will be available on an online portal. The network will also be accessible to the general public to constructively engage with via the portal. The network will be the MOST credible source of information on all matters relevant to Rajasthan's biodiversity.



Team Leaders



Mr. Abhimanyu Golcha



Mr. YK Sahu, IFS (Retd.)



Dr. Satish Sharma



Dr. Dharmendra Khandal



6. Research and Publication

1. Challenges Presented by Pilgrimage Sites and thier Impacts on ecology of Protected areas: A case study of Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve: The traditional pilgrimages to religious sites are evolving into large scale religious tourism in many protected areas across India. A growing influx of visitors leading to infrastructural development of these sites within protected areas has potential to immensely damage the natural ecological balance. There are significant changes in the scale and frequency of visits to religious sites over past few decades creating an undue anthropogenic pressure on the ecology of protected areas. The present study tried to estimate the impact

of religious tourism on the local ecology inside Ranthambhore Tiger reserve (RTR), India. This study was conducted by Ms. Meenu Dhakad, Dr Dharmendra Khandal, Dr. Dhanashree A. Pranjpe, Mr. Ishan Dhar, Mr, Mukesh saini and Mr. Y.K. Sahu. Our findings have finally been published in the Indian Forester.

Citation: Dhakad, M., Khandal, D., Paranjpe, D., Dhar, I., Saini, M. and Sahu, Y.K. 2020. Challenges presented by pilgrimage sites and their impact on ecology of protected areas: a case study of Ranthambhore tiger reserve, Rajasthan. Indian Forester, 146(5): 429-530



The mouth of a cave temple in RTR

2. First records of Dakhan tricolour pied flat (Coladenia indrani indra) and Spotted small flat (Sarangesa purendra sati) (lepidoptera:family hesperiidae) from outskirts of the Ranthambore tiger reserve, Sawai madhopur, Rajasthan, India: During recent surveys, we have sighted the Dakhan Tricolour Pied Flat butterfly (Coladenia indrani indra) and the Desert Spotted Small Flat (Sarangesa purendra sati) on the outskirts of Ranthambore Tiger Reserve, Sawai Madhopur in eastern Rajasthan. These butterflies from the Hesperidae family are among the most beautiful butterflies of Rajasthan seen visiting in habitats dominated by Tridax procubens, Lepidagathish hamiltoniana and L. cristata. During several

surveys, we have sighted them only once indicating them to be rare species in the area. Our findings have been published in Indian Journal of Environmental Sciences.

Citation: Khandal, D. and Sharma, S.K. 2020. First records of Dakhan tricolour pied flat (Coladenia indrani indra) and Spotted small flat (Sarangesa purendra sati) (lepidoptera:family hesperiidae) from outskirts of the Ranthambore tiger reserve, Sawai madhopur, Rajasthan, India. Indian Journal of Environmental Sciences 24(2) 2020, pp.89-92.



7. Media

1. Are Siberian migratory birds increasingly falling prey to India's power lines: A joint study by Russian and Indian scientists on two ospreys shows that this could indeed be the case. Russian raptor (birds of prey) researchers Igor Karyakin, Elena Shikalova, Urmas Sellis and Gunnar Sein along with Nirav Bhatt and Dharmendra Khandal from India monitored a pair of adult ospreys that migrated from Russia to India, to come to the conclusion. The study was published in Down to Earth.
<https://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/wildlife-biodiversity/are-siberian-migratory-birds-increasingly-falling-prey-to-india-s-power-lines--67844>
2. Discovering Ranthambhore: A book on Sawai Madhopur city for the Tourism Department of Rajasthan was compiled by Tiger Watch at the request of the District Administration. The book was launched by Mrs. Diya Kumari, Mr. SP Singh (District Magistrate) and various other district & tourism officials, on the occasion of Sawai Madhopur Diwas on 14 Jan 2020.
3. A Tale of Two Ospreys: In late 2019, a breeding pair of Osprey was satellite tagged in the Sayano-Shushensky State Nature Reserve, Russia. These raptors bond for life and this pair, like others of their kind, reared their brood before starting their long migration. An article on these bird pair was published in Hornbill Magazine.
Citation: Bhatt, N., Dhakad, M. and Dhar, I. 2020. A Tale of Two Ospreys. Hornbill magazine. Jan-Mar-2020.
4. Tigers, tourists and pilgrims: The ecological impact of pilgrimage sites in protected areas: An article on the Impacts of Pilgrimage on ecology of Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve authored by Ms. Meenu Dhakad and Mr. Ishan Dhar was published for Mongabay.
https://india.mongabay.com/2020/08/commentary-tigers-tourists-and-pilgrims-the-ecological-impact-of-pilgrimage-sites-in-protected-areas/?utm_source=spotim&utm_medium=spotim_recirculation&spotim_referrer=recirculation
5. COVID -19: Wildlife Under Siege: An Indian Solution to a Global Crisis:
An article on how the Village Wildlife Volunteer Programme proved to be resilient in the face of opportunistic poaching in light of the COVID-19 by Mr. Ishan Dhar, published for New World Order.
<https://www.newworldorder.today/post/covid-19-wildlife-under-siege-an-indian-solution-to-a-global-crisis?fbclid=IwAR3oXBcrmfB2N-6R7oN3yKxIC2q-Lq5LzP-WkCoBwnYZTTe67AtD-QH-pSZRQ>
7. 352 religious sites in critical tiger habitat of Ranthambhore: The study done by Tiger Watch was published in Times of India.
<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/jaipur/352-religious-sites-in-critical-tiger-habitat-of-rtr-study/articleshow/76453644.cms#:~:text=JAIPUR%3A%20A%20recent%20study%20by,CTH%20Ranthambhore%20division%20every%20year.>
8. One lesson that forest officers today can learn from Fateh Singh Rathore's life: An story on Tiger Watch's founder Lt. Mr Fateh Singh Rathore was published in The Better India.
<https://www.thebetterindia.com/234711/how-does-india-protect-tigers-fateh-singh-rathore-ranthambhore-national-park-rajasthan-india-nor41/#:~:text=One%20lesson%20that%20forest%20officers,not%20politicians%20or%20superior%20officers.>
9. Rajasthan man rode over 200km to save Endangered Vultures & Tigers: An story on Tiger Watch's conservation biologist Dr. Dharmendra Khandal was published in The Better India.
<https://www.thebetterindia.com/233468/india-tigers-save-vultures-how-to-wildlife-conservation-environment-rajasthan-ranthambhore-india-ana79/#:~:text=Back%20in%202002%2C%20Dr,of%20vulture%20population%20in%20India.>
10. Three tigers go missing from Ranthambhore each year: NGO Tiger Watch: A tiger investigation report done by Dr. Dharmendra Khandal was published in Indian Express.
<https://indianexpress.com/article/india/three-tigers-go-missing-from-ranthambhore-each-year-ngo-tiger-watch-6296476/#:~:text=The%20Tiger%20Watch%20report%20pegs,report%20by%20NGO%20Tiger%20Watch.>
11. Villagers develop a protective ring around the Ranthambhore tiger reserve: An article appreciat-

ing the work of Village Wildlife Volunteers in Tiger conservation around Ranthambhore was published in Mongabay.

<https://india.mongabay.com/2020/03/villagers-develop-a-protective-ring-around-the-ranthambore-tiger-reserve/>

12. Tiger poachers have emerged as unlikely conservationists in an Indian village: An story on Mogya

community and role of Tiger Watch and Dhonk in bringing change in thier life has been published on ABC.

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-06-13/tiger-poachers-conservationist-in-india-new-income/12343820>



A pair of Jackal cubs at the opening of their den

8. Appreciation

1. District Collector, Sawai Madhopur: On this Republic Day, our Assistant Conservation Biologist Ms. Meenu Dhakad was felicitated by the District Collector of Sawai Madhopur. At the request of the District Administration, Meenu and Team Tiger Watch prepared an informational book called 'Discovering Ranthambhore' in a matter of days!



2. Appreciation by DFO Karauli: A kind letter of appreciation was received from the young and intrepid former DFO Karauli, Sh. Hemant Singh for our Village Wildlife Volunteers. Our team of VWV led by Mr Harimohan Gurjar, Mr Harisingh Gurjar, Mr Niranjan Sharma, Mr Lakhan Gurjar, Mr Batilal Gurjar, Mr Bihari Singh and Mr Roop Singh made it possible to track and capture the conflict tiger T-104 in the aftermath of 2 separate incidents in Karauli in August and September after he drifted away from Ranthambore National Park. They also ensured the support and cooperation of the local communities during both operations.

3. Appreciation by DFO Kota: A kind letter of appreciation was received from former DCF Kota Sh. Mohan Raj, for our Village Wildlife Volunteers. Our Village Wildlife Volunteer Coordinators Hanuman Gurjar, Niranjan Sharma & others spent 45 days in the new Mukandara Hills Tiger Reserve in the district of Kota, south of Ranthambore in Rajasthan. They spent time with the Forest staff there tracking

and monitoring the relocated tigers from Ranthambore. They even mentored and taught the Mukundra Forest staff how to track tigers safely and efficiently.



Fascinating geological formations on the inside of a Kho

9. Seminars and Workshops

1. GEF Council Consultations with Civil Society Organizations on Combating the Illegal Wildlife Trade

Mrs Divya Khandal (representing Dhonk Craft) and Mr Ishan Dhar (representing Tiger Watch Ranthambhore) attended the Global Environmental Facility's Civil Society Consultations on Combating the Illegal Wildlife Trade at the World Bank in Washington D.C

from December 16th - 19th, 2019. Discussions on interrelated interventions by both organizations such as the upliftment of Mogya women through social enterprise, the Mogya Education Program and the Village Wildlife Volunteers were held with delegates.



Divya Khandal, Dhonk, India



Ishan Dhar, Tiger Watch, India

2. Forest Ranger Training:

Tiger Watch organised a training session for forest rangers from the state of Himachal Pradesh. Dr. Dharmendra Khandal guided the trainees during a nature walk in Ranthambhore national park. In which he talked about the geography, climate, history, flora and fauna of Ranthambhore. During the walk he also explained how to identify different animal tracks.

3. Workshop at Central Detective Training Institute:

Dr. Dharmendra Khandal delivered a lecture on wildlife crime and anti-poaching at the Central Detective Training Institute- Jaipur. Thereby building the capacity of police detectives from 10 different Indian states in tackling wildlife crime.

4. Interaction with Indian Administrative Service Probationers:

A group of 20 probationers from the Indian Forest Service came to Ranthambhore on a visit to know more about the area, wildlife, communities and conservation processes going on here. Tiger Watch organized an interactive session for them along with the Ranthambhore Forest Department. In which Dr. Dharmendra

Khandal discussed Ranthambhore, its biodiversity, the Village Wildlife Volunteer Program, tiger monitoring, anti-poaching operations, wildlife crimes and community behaviors. The session was also joined by Conservator of Forest Mr. Manoj Parasar and Deputy Field Officer of Ranthambhore Mr. Mukesh Saini and they shared their work experience with the trainees.

5. Kailadevi Forest Dept. capacity building workshop:

Dr Dharmendra Khandal led a key capacity building workshop for 100 guards from the Special Tiger Protection Force, officers of the Kailadevi Forest Dept (wildlife section) and the Kailadevi Social Forestry Dept. In the workshop Dr. Khandal discussed Kailadevi wildlife sanctuary, its unique geography & wildlife, the importance of the sanctuary for tiger conservation, wildlife monitoring, anti-poaching operations and wildlife crime.

6. Udaipur Nature Literary Festival: Dr Dharmendra Khandal attended the Udaipur Nature Literary Festival & Conference and discussed his two groundbreaking titles, Unexplored Ranthambhore: Wolf, Jackal, Fox, Hyena & Jhalana: Leopard Forest of the Pink City.



10. Special Supporters

Solar Lighting for Local Communities

Team Fateh: In light of the challenges presented by climate change, it is becoming pressingly important to reduce our dependence on non-renewable sources of energy and instead shift our focus on, for lack of a better word, cleaner energy sources. In this spirit, 5 high school students from JPIS, Jaipur, Abhikram Shekhawat, Pranava Gupta, Nirbhay Narang, Shubodhya Godha & Raunaq Singh launched Project Noor by FATEH which aims to install over 100 solar panels in undeveloped Mogya traditional hunting tribe settlements in villages near Ranthambore - pro-

viding much needed sustainable and clean energy to tribal villages. With Tiger Watch's continued support, we are proud to say that as of the 30th of January, 2020, over 25 solar panels have been successfully installed and tested in Mogya traditional hunting tribe households in Ranthambore, with many more on their way. The Mogya traditional hunting tribe has produced many poachers in Ranthambhore's past. We constructively engage their youth through our Mogya Education Program in an effort to wean the next generation of the community away from poaching.

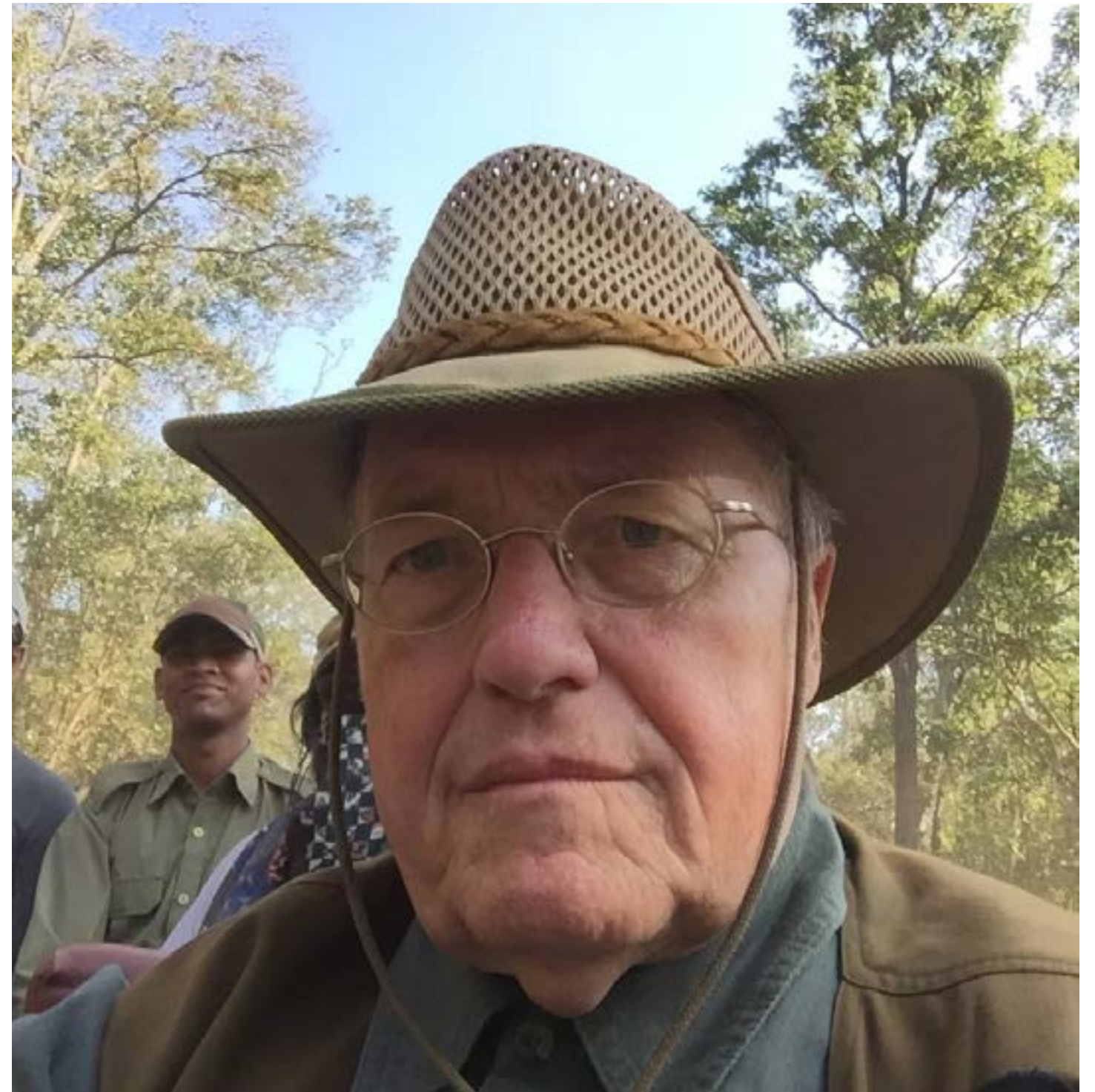


Support for Children's Books

This year, Tiger Watch received 1800 books (total value INR 8 lac) from Sangram Surve, Shalini Surve & Neil Mehta! The books are destined for schools

around the Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve. We are grateful to the Surves and Neil for their unflinching support at this time.





Support from a Great Admirer of Tigers

Mr. Dieter Gutman from Germany, is a longstanding admirer and avid supporter of Tigers. His friendship with our late founder, Fateh Singh ji connected him to Ranthambhore & Tiger Watch. He visits Ranthambhore and other tiger reserves in India every year to learn more about tigers and their conservation. He generously supports the reform work of the Mogya traditional hunting tribe and Tiger Watch's other interventions. This year, he declared Tiger Watch a 50% beneficiary of his estate.

11-. Main Supporters

S U J Á N



KRISHNA MINES
SECURE



Supporters of Tiger Watch

Groups:

Sherbagh Hotel (Sujan)
Krishna Mines
Friends of Conservation
Golcha Foundation
Hem Chand Mahindra Foundation (HMF)
Cotton Kachnar Craft
Vibe Services Management
United world college of Southeast Asia
Tnq Books & Journals pvt. Ltd.
Roots Advertizing
Dhonk Craft
Highlights of India
Studio Verandah
AID (USA)
Felis Creations

Individuals :

Mr. Iskander Lalljee
Mr. Jaisal Singh & Mrs. Anjali Singh
Mr. Punit Lalbhai
Mr. Abhimanyu Golcha
Mr. Dieter Gutmann
Mr. Rob Bloore
Ms. Amanda Bleassby
Mr. Sachin Rai
Mr. Valmik Thapar
Mrs. Usha Rathore
Dr. Goverdhan Singh Rathore
Mr. Neil Mehta
Mr. Rahul Khosla
Mr. Y.K. Sahu
Mr. Ajay Chopra
Mr. Irfan Quadar
Mr. Sachin & Mrs Divya Rajkrishnan
Mr. Anshuman Jain
Mr. Rajendra Singh, Jaipur
Mrs Mona Patel
Mr. Tarun Bansal
Mr. Shivrang Keshav Purohit
Ms. Vrinda Mehtani
Mr. Karan Tibrawalla



Mr. Iskander Laljee (Chairman)



Dr. Goverdhan Singh Rathore
Vice-Chairman



Mr. Punit Lalbhai (Member)



Mr. Abhimanyu Golcha (Member)



Mr. Ashutosh Mahadevia (Secretary)



Ms. Soonoo B. Tararporewala
(Treasurer)



Ms. Anjali Patel Mehta (Member)



Mr. Ishan Dhar (Member)



Mr. Sachin Rai (Joint Secretary)



Dr. Dharmendra Khandal (Member)

12. Board Members



Mr. DharmSingh Gurjar
VWV Coordinator



Ms. Meenu Dhakad
Conservation Biologist



Mr. MeethaLal Gurjar
Mogya Teacher



Mr. DharmSingh Gurjar
Bagh Mitra Coordinator



Mr. Hari Mohan Gurjar
VWV Coordinator



Mr. Hari Singh Gurjar
VWV Coordinator



Mr. Bihari Singh
VWV Coordinator



Dr. Dharmendra Khandal
Conservation Biologist

13. -Field Team

Bank details for the Indian supporters

Name: Tiger Watch
Account No.: 01170 20000 0101
Bank: Bank of Baroda
Branch : Mantown Branch
District : Sawai Madhopur
State : Rajasthan
Contact : 07462-220396
IFSC Code : BARBOMANTOW
Branch Code : Mantow
MICR Code : 322012002

FCRA bank account details for the supporters

USD CURRENCY (The funds should be transferred by remitting bank under MT103 format)
Intermediately bank : JP Morgan Chase Bank , New York, USA
SWIFT CODE : CHASUS33
FEDWIRE ABA No: 021000021 CHIPS ABA No: 0002 CHIPS UID No: 354459
Favoring Beneficiary Bank : HDFC BANK LTD., India SWIFT CODE HDF-
CINBB
HDFC bank’s account no. with JP Morgan 001-1-406717
Beneficiary Name: Tiger Watch
Beneficiary account number: : 50100341528960

EURO CURRENCY (The funds should be transferred by remitting bank under MT103 format)
Intermediately bank : JP Morgan Chase Bank , Frankfurt, Germany
SWIFT CODE :CHASDEFX
IBAN No: DE26501108006231602308
Favoring Beneficiary Bank : HDFC BANK LTD., India SWIFT CODE HDF-
CINBB
HDFC bank’s account no. with JP Morgan. 623-16-02308
Beneficiary Name: Tiger Watch
Beneficiary account number: : 50100341528960

GBP CURRENCY .(The funds should be transferred by remitting bank under MT103 format)
Intermediately bank : JP Morgan Chase Bank , London, UK
SWIFT CODE : CHASGB2L
SORT CODE : 609242
Favoring Beneficiary Bank : HDFC BANK LTD., India SWIFT CODE HDF-
CINBB
HDFC bank’s account no. with JP Morgan. 111-35191
Beneficiary Name: Tiger Watch
Beneficiary account number: : 50100341528960



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