



# Tiger Watch

(Annual report 2021-22)







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## Fateh Singh Rathore

Ranthambhore became the place, which brought the tiger to the consciousness of the people the world over. Fateh ji brought glory to Ranthambhore, making it a celebrated tiger reserve. He served as the park manager and was the founder of Tiger Watch. He firmly believed in working with people to save the Tiger & in a country that is one billion strong, his people-centric approach is the only one that worked.



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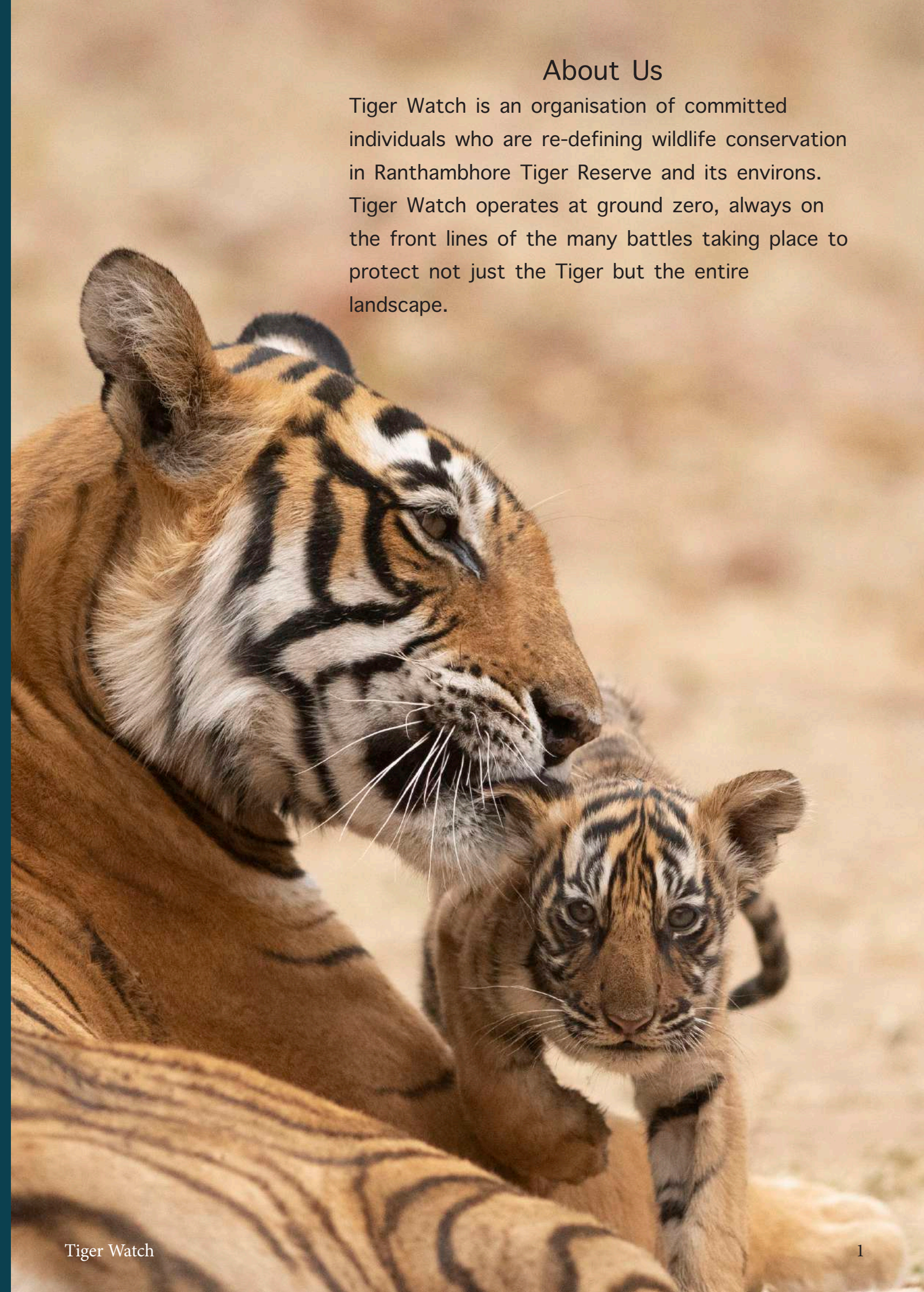
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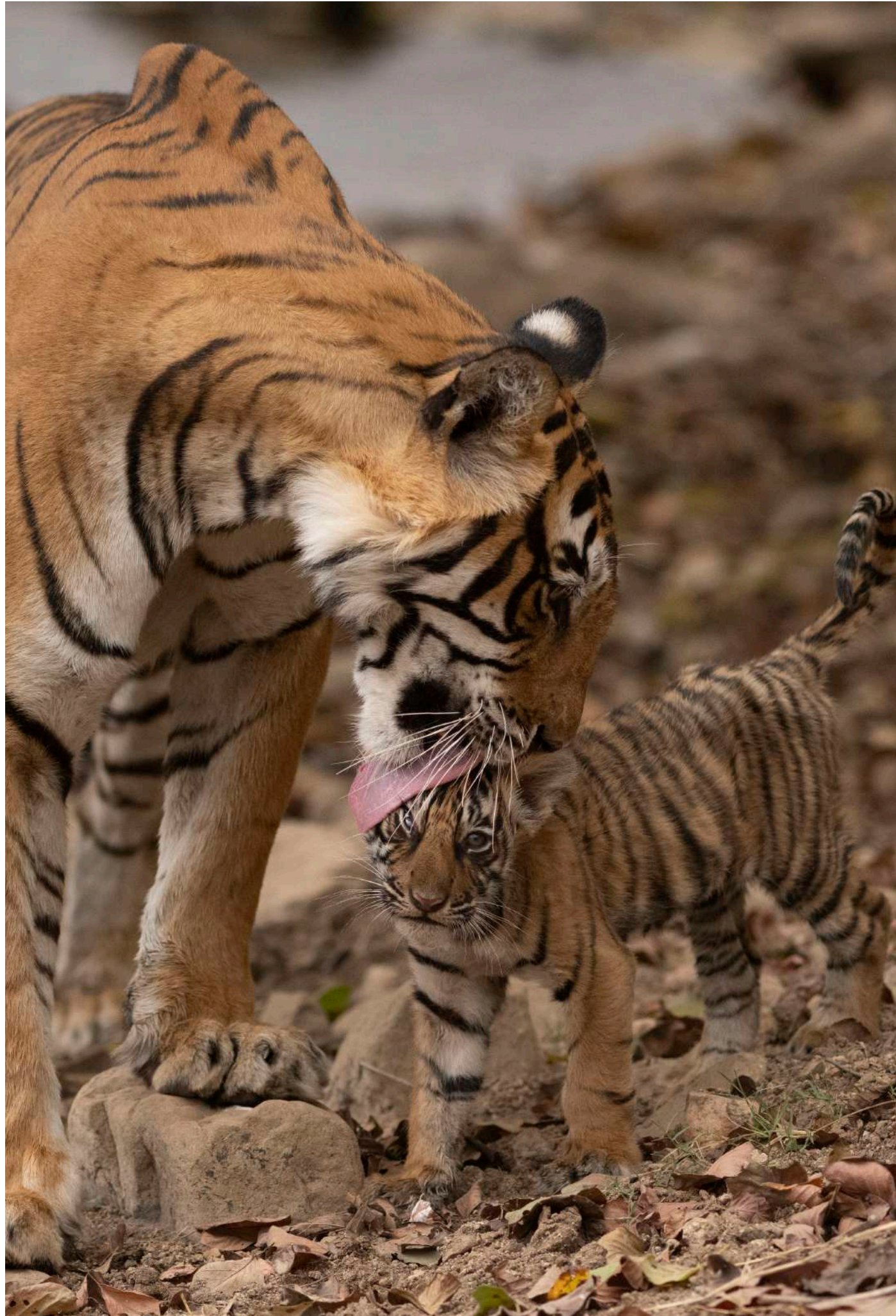
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## About Us

Tiger Watch is an organisation of committed individuals who are re-defining wildlife conservation in Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve and its environs. Tiger Watch operates at ground zero, always on the front lines of the many battles taking place to protect not just the Tiger but the entire landscape.







## Chairman's Note



Dear friends,

With the COVID-19 pandemic having ebbed, 2021-22 has been a rather productive year for Tiger Watch. The Village Wildlife Volunteer ( VWV) tiger monitoring program has been as efficient as ever. Their diligent and continued monitoring led to the discovery of a 'new' breeding population in the Kailadevi Wildlife Sanctuary (Sarmuthra (Dholpur) area), the existence of which would not have been possible without their efforts. The VWV team have also tracked new additions to this population from the Ranthambhore National Park.

Another remarkable achievement by the VWV tiger monitoring team was their subtle yet effective involvement in the recent formation of the Ramgarh-Vishdari Tiger Reserve in Bundi and in the monitoring of two new tigers from Ranthambhore, the beginning, hopefully, of yet another metapopulation.

The anti-poaching work of the VWV has been exemplary as well. This entailed the detection of wire 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. Illegal encroachment is also a growing concern, with some eye-opening cases recorded in 2021.

Recent gains made in the education of Mogya girls since we switched the Mogya Education Program to a model of home schooling in 2020-2021. Home schooling has now been formalized into a highly specialized initiative called Bagh Pari, with the support of our very own Anjali Patel Mehta. Anjali, as committed, secured all funding for this project independently. The education of Mogya girls is a subject very close to my heart and I am particularly pleased with this development.

This year has seen even further developments in the direction of education and conservation awareness through the auspices of the newly established Dieter and Liz Gutmann Tiger Conservation Program. Dieter and Liz are old friends of our late founder and have been longtime supporters of Tiger Watch interventions involving local communities like the Mogyas. With their support, a unit of 4 mobile teachers is currently spreading conservation awareness in 40 key village schools (10,500 students!) around the Ranthambhore National Park and Sawai Mansingh Wildlife Sanctuary. Educational material in the local vernacular, quite unlike anything else I have seen, is currently being disseminated.

I have been made aware of the fact that to secure the future of Ranthambhore, in line with Tiger Watch's vision, we need to work towards an increase in the tiger carrying capacity to 150 tigers in the entire Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve. Since we have a tight window of 8-10 years to accomplish this and given that this would involve, besides others, the daunting task of strategic village relocations in the Kailadevi Wildlife Sanctuary, the Tiger Watch team has a big task ahead of it. As a starting point, we need to initiate some of our time-tested interventions through the Village Wildlife Volunteers and the conservation awareness wing of the Dieter & Liz Gutmann Tiger Conservation Program working in tandem. I eagerly look forward to doing all that is possible to bring about these changes within the window that we have.

I would like to thank the entire 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. And finally, I would like to thank all our donors and supporters for their good faith, their encouragement and their trust in Tiger Watch.

Iskander Lalljee

Chairman  
Tiger Watch



# 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 Chambal 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.







## Pioneering Scientific Research & Publications

### Background-

Tiger Watch Ranthambhore has kept up its long-standing commitment to scientific research. Tiger Watch has been involved in the exploration of biodiversity and research projects on foxes, wolves, reptiles, local flora and wildlife corridors to the neighbouring districts. Due to a vast knowledge base of locally occurring wildlife and an unmatched extensive local network, researchers from all over the country collaborate with Tiger Watch for field assistance, while the Village Wildlife Volunteer program which generates valuable data on a daily basis has supplemented small projects conducted by Tiger Watch volunteers and MSc student interns looking to write their dissertations.

Over and above this, research investigating the presence and status of endangered species like the Gharial, the Indian Wolf and the Caracal, have been conducted by engaging volunteers from all over the country.

### 1. Spatial Determinants of Livestock Depredation and Human Attitude Toward Wolves in Kailadevi Wildlife Sanctuary, Rajasthan, India in Frontiers of Ecology & Evolution

Gray wolves are capable of adapting to human-dominated landscapes by utilizing domestic prey as a source of food. Livestock depredation by wolves incurs a heavy economic loss to the villagers, resulting in negative attitudes toward the species and leading to increased conservation conflict. We used multi-state occupancy modeling on the interview data to assess the ecological factors governing livestock depredation by wolves. We also assessed the socio-demographic factors that may govern the attitude of villagers toward the wolf using ordinal regression. Over the past year, 64% of respondents reported a loss of livestock, in which goats (63%) comprised the major share, followed by sheep (22%) and cattle calves (15%). Wolves tend to hunt medium-sized domestic prey (sheep and goats) that commonly graze in open agricultural areas. The estimated livestock depredation probability of wolves was 0.84 ( $SD = \pm 0.23$ ). Depredation probability was influenced by habitat use by wolves, the extent of agricultural areas, scrubland area, and settlement size. Respondents with prior experience of livestock loss held more negative attitudes. Shepherds held more negative attitudes than other occupations. Increases in the respondent's age and education level reflected a positive shift in attitudes toward the wolf. High economic loss caused by livestock depredation by wolves can lead to retaliatory persecution of wolves. Adequate compensation for livestock loss, along with better education and awareness can help lead to coexistence between wolves and humans in multi-use landscape of Kailadevi Wildlife Sanctuary, Rajasthan, India.

<https://tigerwatch.net/research/>

2  
Books

8  
Peer reviewed  
research papers

1  
New addition in the state  
flora



## 2. Ecological invasion of the giant African snail *Lissachatina fulica* (Bowdich, 1822) in a semi-arid forest of western India. In Biodiversity Observations

*Lissachatina fulica* (Bowdich, 1822) is invading Ranthambore national park, semi-arid forest of western India. Semi arid areas are presumed to be immune from this ecological pest of humid tropical climate. Tourism induced changes in habitat is enabling this pest to colonise this fragile ecosystem.

## 3. Assessment of livestock grazing pressure in key tiger habitat in a semi-arid landscape in Western India in Tropical Ecology

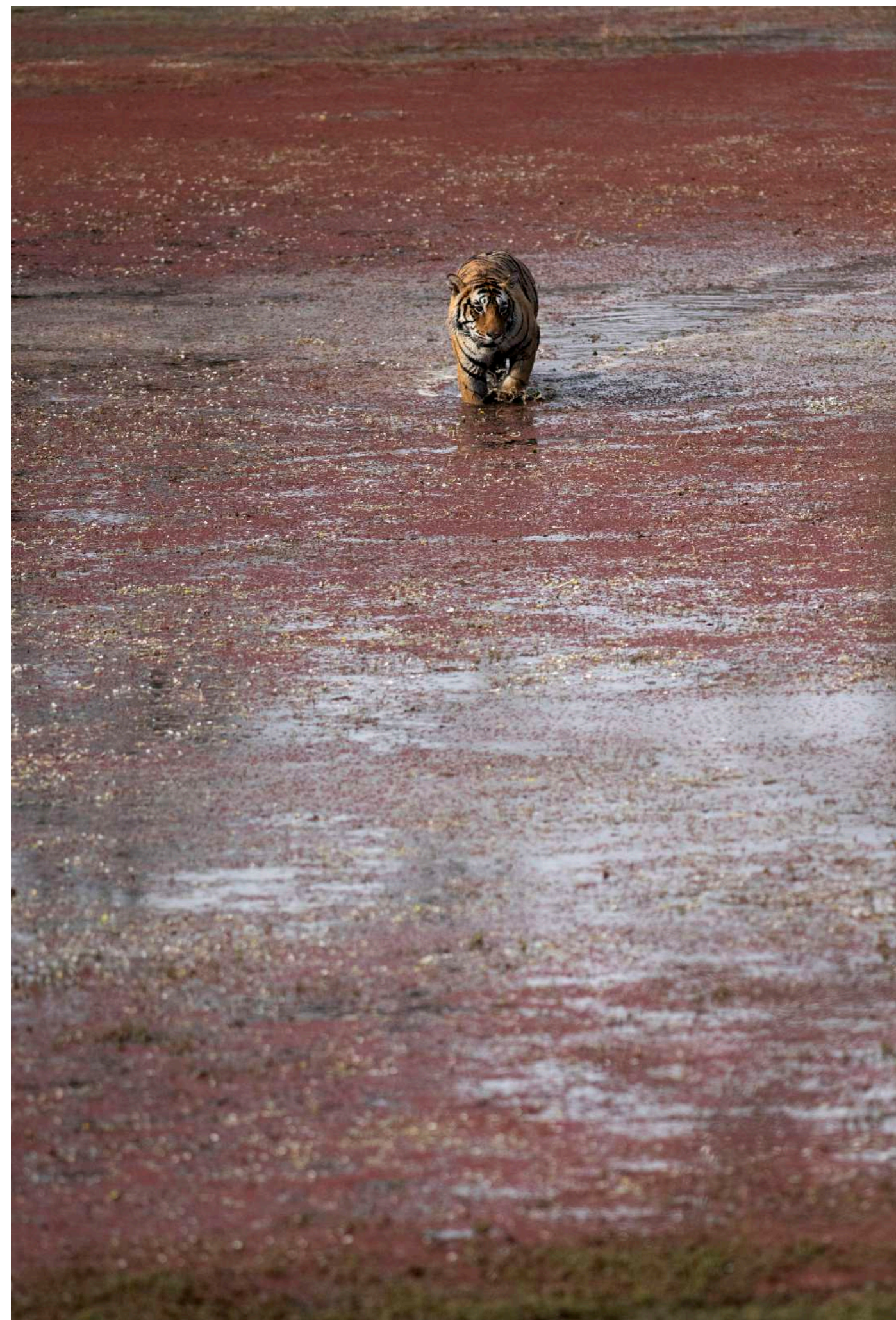
Loss of pasture lands and increased livestock population has resulted in higher livestock dependency on the forest lands. Kailadevi Wildlife Sanctuary (KWLS) is an important landscape for maintaining a healthy tiger population in western India. The sanctuary is inhabited by 19,179 people and 78,122 livestock in 66 settlements. Livestock density in KWLS is 0.74 ACU ha<sup>-1</sup> which is much higher than the recommended stocking density. Heavy livestock population has degraded the habitat. The study was carried out to assess the grazing pressure in the KWLS. Livestock population has left very little space for the wild herbivores. There is an immense possibility of increased human–wildlife conflicts and endangered food security and livelihood for thousands of people. In view of such a situation, measures have been suggested for the management of livestock grazing impacts and conservation of this crucial habitat.

## 4. Assessing anthropogenic pressure of forest villages in the Kailadevi Wildlife Sanctuary (Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve) using cumulative disturbance index (CDI) in Arid Ecosystems

Human communities living in and around the forest are highly dependent on the forest for subsistence and livelihood. Kailadevi Wildlife Sanctuary (KWLS), is an important landscape for securing tiger population in semi arid western India. Human population and their livestock residing in KWLS are exerting anthropogenic pressure on the habitat. Understanding the nature of the anthropogenic pressure is essential to mitigate anthropogenic pressure, reduce negative human-wildlife interactions and improve habitat for wildlife. Anthropogenic disturbance caused by 12 enclave villages inside KWLS was measured using cumulative disturbance index (CDI). Livestock grazing and extraction of wood was found to be the most pressing anthropogenic pressures in the KWLS. Outcome of the study will help the forest managers to devise strategies to improve the habitat quality for the wildlife.

## 5. Factors Influencing Habitat-Use of Indian Grey Wolf in the Semiarid Landscape of Western India in Mammal Study

Wolves play a crucial role in shaping ecological communities as an apex predator in the dry-open forests of semi-arid landscapes in India. Large scale habitat loss pertaining to human expansion and retaliatory killing by human caused severe decline in the wolf population across its range. The estimated wolf population size is close to 2000–3000 individuals in India; however, these estimates were decades old and the present status of the wolf in the semi-arid landscape is largely unknown. We assessed the distribution of wolves in Kailadevi Wildlife Sanctuary, Rajasthan using occupancy models and identified important factors associated with habitat-use by wolves. Occupancy modelling shifts the focus from individual animal to a site, while accounting for detection probability. To assess the habitat-use we used sign-based surveys that rely on data collected from adjacent sampling sites (replicates). The habitat-use was assessed across 672.82 km<sup>2</sup> surveying 48 grid cells, each measuring 14.44 km<sup>2</sup>. Estimated habitat-use (SD) was found to be 0.82 (0.14). Our findings suggested that availability of agriculture land had the significant positive influence on the habitat-use of wolves. Other factors such as availability of water, scrubland, and wild prey (nilgai and chinkara) also had a positive effect on the habitat use of wolves, but it was not significant. Forest cover has a negative influence on the habitat use of wolves. This study is the first rigorous assessment of the Indian grey wolf habitat-use at the level of wildlife reserve with potential conservation value that can be applied to other areas in India.







## 6. Preliminary status of the Indian grey wolf in Kailadevi Wildlife Sanctuary, Rajasthan, India in Canid Biology & Conservation ( journal of the IUCN SSC Canid Specialist Group)

The Indian grey wolf (*Canis lupus pallipes*) is the apex predator of the semi-arid landscapes of India. They have large home ranges and mostly thrive outside the protected areas, feeding on livestock to fulfil dietary needs, thus bringing them into direct conflict with humans, making it imperative to identify and conserve wolf-occupied areas. We used questionnaire surveys and field methods to estimate the number and status of wolves in Kailadevi Wildlife Sanctuary, Rajasthan. We estimated 19 – 45 wolves occurring at a density of 0.02 – 0.06 wolves/km<sup>2</sup> in 672.82 km<sup>2</sup> of Kailadevi Wildlife Sanctuary. The maximum number was estimated from the Nainyaki range. The presence of wolves was significantly positively related to the presence of sheep and goats. Due to low availability of natural prey in the study area, wolves depend on livestock, causing high economic loss to the resident people. Our study suggests that if strict conservation measures are taken, Kailadevi Wildlife Sanctuary holds the potential to act as a source population for the conservation of the Indian grey wolf in the larger landscape surrounding the study area. However, due to high anthropogenic pressure, the landscape is severely degraded and requires immediate attention to restore the existing scrubland for denning and rendezvous sites. Effective compensation schemes and awareness through outreach and education are required to reduce negative attitudes among the resident people and to prevent wolf persecution. Future research should make use of modern radio-telemetry techniques to better understand the ecology of the wolves in this landscape.

## 7. Natural history notes on three bat species in Journal of Threatened Taxa

Three bat species have long been considered to occur within the state of Rajasthan—the Lesser Mouse-Eared bat *Myotis blythii* Tomes, 1857, the Large Barbastelle *Barbastella darjelingensis* Hodgson, in Horsfield, 1855 and the Serotine Bat *Eptesicus serotinus pachyomus* Tomes, 1857. Rajasthan is considered the type locality for two of these species—*Myotis blythii* and *Eptesicus serotinus pachyomus*. Despite targeted surveys, these bats have not been observed in Rajasthan for more than a century and a half. A chronological review of published literature reveals that the bats were never originally claimed to occur in Rajasthan and their inclusion among bats occurring in Rajasthan was a consequence of assumptions perpetuated as facts.

## 8. *Peristylus Goodyeroides* (D. Don) Lindl. (Orchidaceae): A New Addition to the Flora of Rajasthan in Indian Journal of Environmental Sciences

*Peristylus goodyeroides* (D. Don) Lindl. is reported for the first time from the state of Rajasthan in the forest of Phulwari-ki-Nal Wildlife Sanctuary by Dr. Satish Sharma and Dr. Dharmendra Khandal. A brief description, habitat notes, photographs and taxonomic keys are provided.







## Books

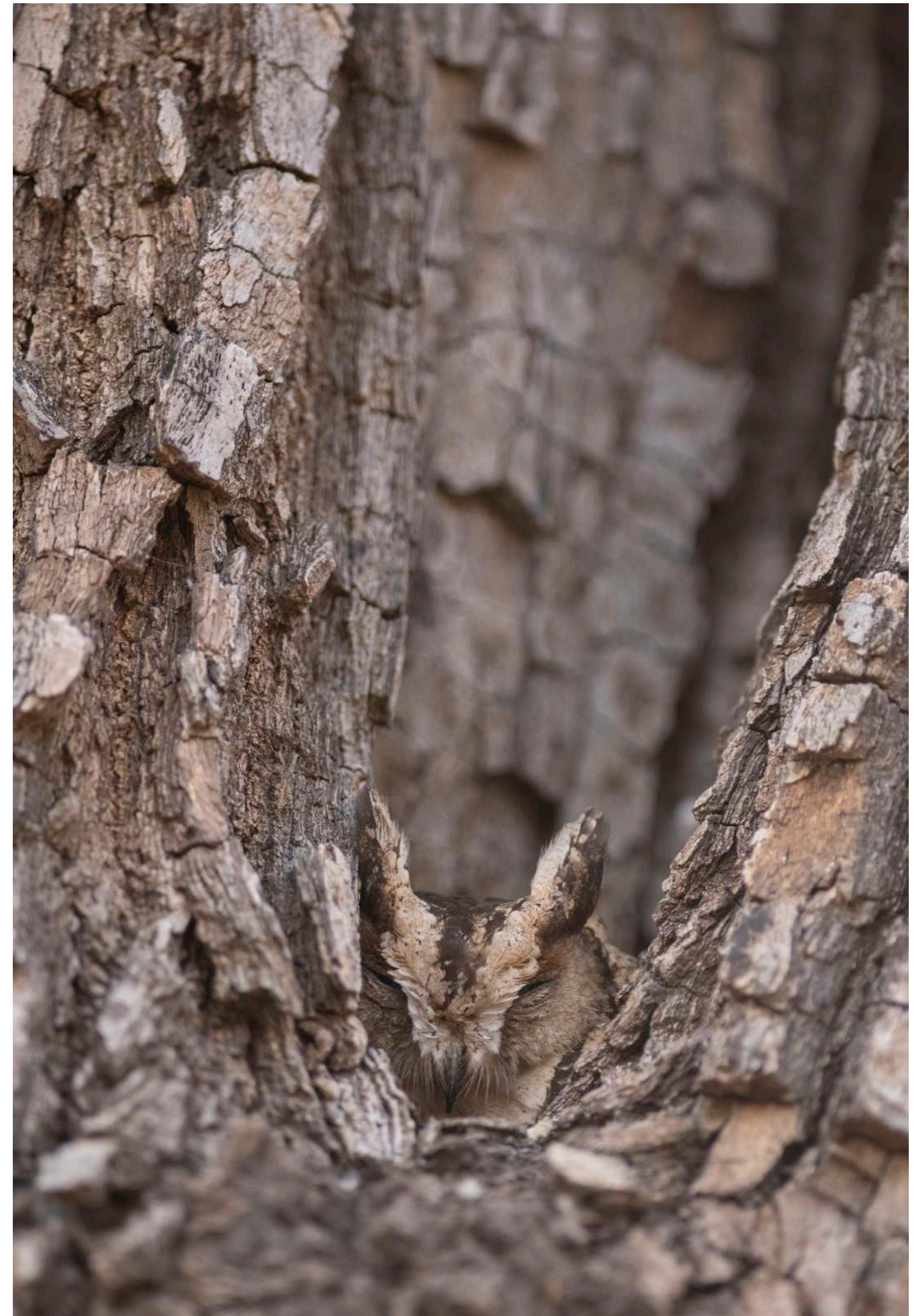
Co-authorship with Sh. Valmik Thapar in  
Tiger Gold

Dr. Dharmendra Khandal co-authored Tiger Gold with Sh. Valmik Thapar, a brand new book offering new and extraordinary insights into the tiger population of Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve.



Chapter in Wildlife India@50 edited by Sh. Manoj Kumar Misra and published by Rupa

Tiger Watch authors ( Dr. Dharmendra Khandal & Ishan Dhar) along with celebrated Ranthambhore tiger photographer Aditya 'Dicky' Singh contributed an extensive chapter on 'Four Conservancies Silently Protecting Wildlife in Rajasthan'.





# Village Wildlife Volunteers Program

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 up to 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.

### Support:

The program has been wholeheartedly supported by Sh. Jaisal Singh and Smt. Anjali Singh of SUJAN since 2016.

### 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 fulfil 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. 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'.





## Monitoring of Tigers:

### 1. T-136 Near Gangapur City

The VWV team has also been continuously tracking T-136 since he left the protected area and is currently wandering dangerously close to Gangapur city. The VWV also located him twice after he disappeared for a spell of 5 days the first instance and for 6 days the second. This is an ongoing situation with constant developments.

### 2. Assisting Forest Staff Monitor T-115 and T-102 in Ramgarh Vishdari Tiger Reserve

The newly established Ramgarh Vishdari Tiger Reserve has two tigers from Ranthambhore. A male T-115 who migrated there naturally and a translocated female T-102. At the request of the Field Director, a team of VWV is clandestinely assisting their staff in monitoring these tigers and teaching them the nuances around tracking tigers. It should be understood that the Forest Department staff in Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve are now becoming more proactive in monitoring tigers and often seek the VWV for assistance unprompted. This change is visible among the ground staff such as forest guards, not at the officer level.





## Antipoaching:

1. On 16th Aug 2021, some people were fishing in zone number 10 near Bherupura area, naka Bodal. VWV Jagdish reported this incident and the Forest Department was informed.
2. On 8th Sept 2021, two Mogya poachers were roaming near the forest in Darra anikat, Bodal area. VWV Jagdish reported this incident and forest officials were informed.
3. On 12th Nov 2021, some poachers were roaming near the forest in Pandya ka taal, Bodal area. VWV Ismail reported this incident and forest officials were informed.
4. On 14th Nov, 4-5 2021 Mogya poachers killed a wild pig in Pandya ka taal, Bodal area. VWV Mangilal reported this incident and forest officials were informed.
5. On 5th Dec 2021, poachers armed with guns camera trapped in the Badpur area. VWV Harisingh reported this incident and also informed the forest officials.
6. On 9th Aug, two Mogya poachers armed with guns were roaming around Darura village, Khushalpur kho, Mandrail range. VWV Bihari Singh reported this incident and forest officials were informed.
7. On 7th Dec 2021, Two poachers were roaming inside forest in the Devnarayan chatravas kalibhat area, Phalodi. VWV Hukumchand reported this incident and forest officials were informed.
8. On 10th Dec 2021, some people were fishing in the Bodal area. VWV Ismail reported this incident and forest officials were informed.
9. On 14th Dec 2021, some people were extracting wild asparagus roots from Sundarpura enclosure of Awand area. VWV Bahadur reported this incident and forest officials were informed.
10. On 22nd Nov 2021, some villagers were cutting Dhonk tree wood in Mandrail range. VWV Bihari Singh reported this incident and forest officials were informed.
11. On 23rd Dec 2021, 6 Mogya poachers armed with guns and dogs were roaming inside the forest in Guwadi ki Khirkadi. VWV Harimohan reported this incident and forest officials were informed.
12. On 22nd Dec 2021, carcass of a wild boar was found near Jakhoda kho, Mandrail area. VWV Bihari Singh reported this incident and forest officials were informed.
13. On 25th Dec 2021, poachers killed a wild pig near Bheempura . VWV Battilal reported this incident and forest officials were informed.
14. On 29th Dec, two poachers roaming inside forest near Kadakhhet village in Kho naka area. VWV Harimohan reported this incident and forest officials were informed.
15. On January 1st 2022, Mogya poacher Ravi Mogya (accompanied by his wife Kesar Mogya) was observed firing a firearm near a well in Devpura Naka, Dangarwada. VWV Dharmsingh Gurjer reported the incident.
16. On January 10th, 2022, in a ravine near the village of Semri 5 poachers poached a wild boar and were then collecting its tallow. VWV Harisingh Gurjer Semri reported this incident.
17. On 24th January 2022, 10 tribal families from Madhya Pradesh entered Sarmuthra range in Dholpur

and camped near Richhra village. They then poached wild asparagus and also poached a blue bull. This incident was reported by VWV Harimohan Gurjer.

18. On February 13th 2022, in the area of Nahari in Devpura Naka near kheda, the remains of a poached wild boar were discovered by VWV Mangilal Kishanpura. The poachers are local to the area.
19. In March 2022, near the Peerat Baba temple on the banks of the Banas river 5 poachers were observed poaching wild boar by VWV Ramesh Gurjer Talda.
20. On March 5th 2022, Head VWV Harimohan Gurjer observed individuals from Madhya Pradesh extracting Barna trees. He also reported that in the Dangda naka of Nainiyaki range ,people were going in the thousands to cut Chaveni.
21. On March 22nd 2022, VWV Batlilal Gurjer reported 20 individuals cutting Chaveni in the Sankda area.
22. On March 30th 2022, VWV Batilal Gurjer reported a truck full of illegally extracted Chaveni timber.
23. On April 12th 2022 three armed poachers were seen near the Balaji temple of Maharo village.
24. On April 17th 2022 two armed poachers were seen near the Banas river, and with VWV intelligence, arrested by the Forest Department.
25. On April 17th 2022, 3 poachers were observed riding a motorcycle near a well in Maharo village by VWV Roopsingh Maharo.
26. On April 25th 2022 poachers were observed butchering the meat of a poached chinkara, in the field of Panda Bairwa in Bhuri pahadi, Banas river area near Pareet Baba by VWV Roopsingh Maharo. The chinkara's horns were recovered from the site as evidence.
27. On April 27th 2022 , in Kiradi, near the banks of the Banas river, a poacher was observed poaching 2 hares.
28. On April 20th 2022, in the ravine of Kadakhhet 4 armed poachers were observed searching for quarry by Head VWV Harimohan Gurjer.
29. On April 24th 2022, 4 poachers poached 2 chinkaras on the Tipkan plantation and took the contraband towards the Banas river area. Reported Head VWV Harimohan Gurjer.
30. On May 1st 2022, in the Nahari area of Devpura naka, VWV Jagdish Gurjer reported a pickup truck full of date palms headed for Kuwalji.
31. On May 12th 2022, Head VWV Harimohan Gurjer reported 5 individuals from the Dakya Meena gang preparing a poached chital.
32. On May 15th 2022, Head VWV Harimohan Gurjer reported 5 armed poachers wandering in the Kalakhhet area.
33. On May 31st 2022, VWV Roopsingh Maharo reported 3 armed poachers in the Kalai Ghati area at night.
34. On June 14th 2022, VWV Roopsingh Maharo reported two poachers with one firearm headed towards Kosri Daand.



# रणथम्भौर नेशनल पार्क के तालेड़ा रेंज का मामला शिकार की फिराक में घूमते दो गिरफ्तार, टोपीदार बंदूक, गोलियां व छर्रे बरामद किए

काशी | तालेड़ा माधोपुर

रणथम्भौर की तालेड़ा रेंज से वनकर्मियों ने शिकार की फिराक में घूमते दो शिकार के आरोपी आड़ूदा निवासी महेंद्र सिंह व नरेश सिंह हैं। वनकर्मियों ने दोनों आरोपियों से एक टोपीदार बंदूक, 120 ग्राम बारूद, 6 लोहे की मोटी गोलियां व छर्रे बरामद किए हैं। तालेड़ा रेंजर रामखिलाड़ी मीणा ने बताया कि डीएफओ महेंद्र शर्मा व एसीएफ संजीव शर्मा के निर्देशन में रणथम्भौर में अवैध शिकारियों की रोहबारी को रोका



गश्त कर रहे थे। इस दौरान मुखबिर से सूचना मिली कि तालेड़ा वन क्षेत्र में कुछ लोग अवैध हथियार के साथ शिकार की फिराक में घूम रहे हैं। सूचना पर वनकर्मियों ने तालेड़ा रेंज में

संदिग्धस्थान में घूमते नजर आए, जिनके पास बंदूक थी। वनकर्मियों को देख दोनों आरोपियों ने भागने का प्रयास किया। रेंजर रामखिलाड़ी मीणा व वनकर्मियों में उनका लगभग आधा किलोमीटर पीछा कर दोनों शिकारियों को दबोच लिया। वनकर्मियों की टीम ने दोनों शिकारियों के पास से एक टोपीदार बंदूक के साथ 120 ग्राम बारूद, 6 लोहे की मोटी गोलियां व छर्रे सहित एक लोहे का छुरा बरामद किया है। वन विभाग की टीम



5°15'26"N  
76°47'60"E  
317.2±37 m  
2.6 m  
3-2022 10:49





## Discovery of Dead Wildlife

1. On 11th Nov 2021, a dead wild pig was found near Chitar neta farm in Kailashpuri. VWV Sonarayan Gurjar reported this incident and forest officials were informed.
2. On 3rd Dec 2021, a dead wild boar was found near Kachda in Awand area. VWV Jagdish from Bherupura reported this incident and forest officials were informed.
3. On 27th Dec 2021, a dead Pangolin was found near Shridant ka nala, Kailadevi range. VWV Harimohan reported this incident and forest officials were informed.
4. On January 22nd 2022, in the rahir naka of Kailadevi range, VWV Harisingh Gurjer reported a dead leopard cub near the bada taal.
5. On February 11th 2022, in the Jetpur area of Bodal naka, VWV Jagdish Gurjer found the remains of a sambhar deer which had been dead for approx. 3-4 days.
6. On January 3rd 2022, near Siyardarah kharkhari, VWV Biharsingh Jakhoda and Harisingh Semri discovered a tiger skull, the matter was reported to the Forest Department.
7. On January 5th 2022, a dead leopard cub was found near the Irta ka nala on the boundary of Karauli and Dholpur districts by VWV Bihari Singh.
8. On March 30th 2022, MEP teacher Meethalal Gurjer discovered bluebull roadkill near the village of Sendri Gujran near the naka of Mohammedpura.
9. On 23rd February 2022, on the Nachai hillock in the Jetpur area of Bodal naka, VWV Ismail Khan discovered the skull of a dead tiger.
10. On 21st February 2022, in the Chodiya Khata area of Karanpur Range the remains of a dead leopard were discovered by Head VWV Harimohan Gurjer
11. On 25th February 2022, in the Chodiya Khata area of Karanpur Range the remains of a dead wolf were discovered by Head VWV Harimohan Gurjer
12. On 10th February 2022, 4 armed poachers were reported by VWV Roop Singh Gurjer.
13. On 13th February 2022, 2 armed poachers were reported by VWV Roop Singh Gurjer from the Badipal area.
14. On 20th February 2022, 2 armed poachers were reported by VWV Harimohan Gurjer.
15. On April 26th 2022, in the Falodi range of Bodal naka near Bheronpura village VWV Jagdish Gurjer found a dead bluebull in a ravine.
16. On June 17th 2022, 2 old hyena carcasses were discovered by VWV Battilal Sankda.





## Crude Bombs

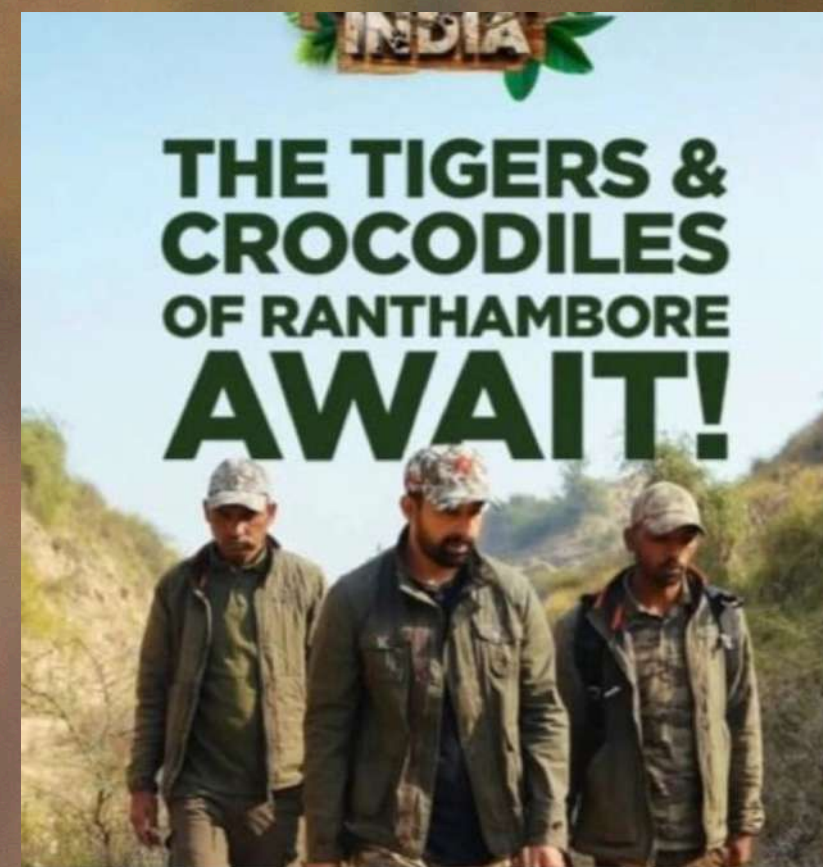
1. On 5th Dec 2021, one crude bomb was found in an agricultural field in Banpur village, Talda area. VWV Ramesh reported this incident and forest officials were informed.
2. On 25th Dec 2021, poacher Ramphal Mali S/o Ballu Mali of Haripura village killed a wild boar by using a crude bomb near pipal wala jharna, Mandrail area. VWV Bihari Singh reported this incident and forest officials were informed.
3. On January 18th, 2022 in the doodh ghati of Bajauli naka in Baler range, a crude bomb was discovered and reported by VWV Battilal Sankda
4. On 19th February 2022, in the village of lundawadi in the bodal naka, a cow bit into a crude bomb which exploded and tore its jaws asunder. The cow belonged to a resident of Lahsoda named Ramesh and the people who planted the bomb were also from nearby. The incident was reported by MEP teacher Mee-thalal Gurjer and the VWV reached the scene soon after.

## Snares:

1. On 5th Dec 2021, a snared hyena was camera trapped near Itawa area, Phalodi range. VWV Mangilal reported this incident and forest officials were informed.
2. On 15th Dec 2021, a snared hyena was camera trapped near Itawa area, Phalodi range. VWV Mangilal reported this incident and forest officials were informed.
3. On 14th January 2022, a snared hyena was camera trapped near Devpura Naka by VWV Mangilal Gurjer
4. On 22nd Dec 2021, a snared Bluebull was camera trapped near Bheruji from Bairna area, Phalodi range. VWV Harisingh reported this incident and forest officials were informed.
5. On 25th January 2022, in the area of Dolara, Devpura Naka of Falodi Range, a snared dead chital deer was reported by VWV Mangilal Gurjer
6. On April 13th 2022, a snared Nilgai was camera trapped near the sthan of Bheronji baba in Falodi range by VWV Harisingh Berna.
7. On April 27th 2022 in the Berna area of Faldo range, Bodal Naka, near a Bheroji temple, VWV Harisingh Berna camera trapped a snared bluebull.







The Village Wildlife Volunteers Appear on an episode of Safari India on the channel Zee Zest Hosted by reality T.V. host Rannvijay Singha



### 1. Four-Horned Antelope in the Greater Ranthambhore Landscape

It was truly exhilarating when our VWV discovered multiple pieces of evidence(camera trap detection) of the four horned antelope or chousingha in a part of Dholpur district bordering Kailadevi Wildlife Sanctuary (Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve ) in 2020 and 2021. First concrete pieces of evidence of occurrence for this area after a very long time.



### 2. Plant Record for Rajasthan

VWV Satyendra Singh Jadon provided the second record of *Alectra chitrakutensis* for Rajasthan in the greater #ranthambhore landscape ( part of Dholpur bordering Kailadevi Wildlife Sanctuary). A root parasite endemic to India it was first reported in Rajasthan by Dr Satish Sharma and Dr RC Bhutia in nearby Bundi.







## The Auxiliary Network

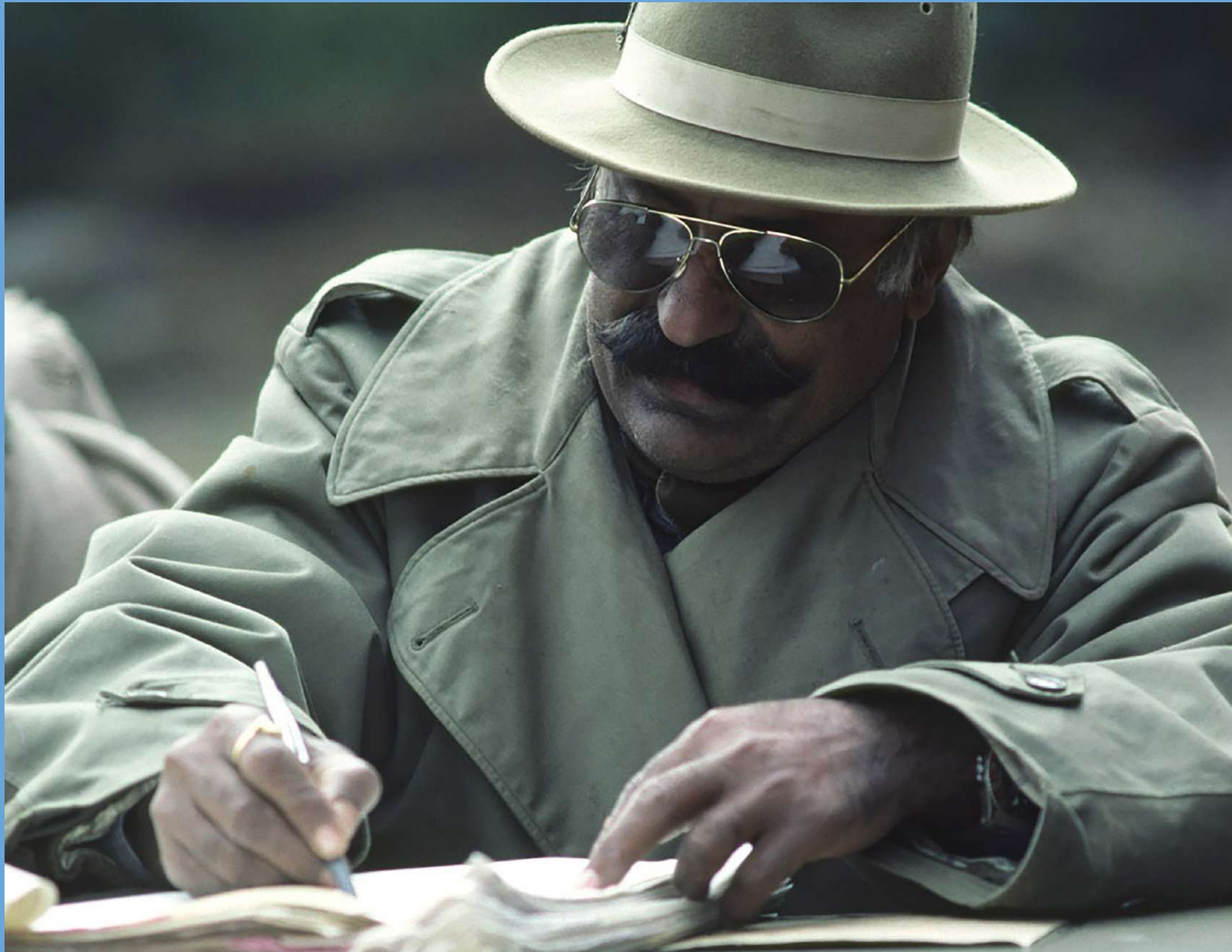
Our Village Wildlife Volunteers rely on local community members for crucial actionable information on the movement of tigers, antipoaching and human-wildlife conflict outside the protected areas of Ranthambhore. Many such local community members have evolved into tremendous wildlife warriors in their own right.

With the support of Tiger Watch Board Member Mr. Abhimanyu Golcha and the Golcha Foundation, we have been able to formalize their participation through the establishment of the Auxiliary Network of 150 community people, an additional community led frontline in the protection of Ranthambhore's wildlife! This year Village Wildlife Volunteer Coordinators Harimohan Gurjer and Bihari Singh felicitated members of the Auxiliary Network for their efforts.





# FATEH SINGH RATHORE MEMORIAL LECTURE AND CONSERVATION AWARDS 2022



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 honour people for their contributions in saving and protecting wildlife in the state of Rajasthan.

The 10th Fateh Singh Rathore Memorial Lecture & Conservation Awards were carried out with much enthusiasm. The event was hosted at the Fateh Public School under the aegis of Tiger Watch. Sh. Praveen Pradeshi, Member (Admin), Capacity Building Commission, Govt. of India and Sh. Arijit Banerjee, IFS APCCF were present as special guests. Senior investigative journalist Sh. Jay Mazoomdaar was keynote speaker. Also present were Sh. Valmik Thapar, India's foremost tiger conservationist and Sh. YK Sahu, IFS, CCF (Retd.). Sh. T.C. Verma, IFS, CCF & Field Director, Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve, and Sh. Sanjeev Sharma, ACF were also in attendance.

The awardees were from across the length and breadth of Rajasthan and were presented mementos and honorariums. The Shri Krishna Gaushala Samiti from Ramgarh-Shekhawati was honoured with the indigenous conservation model award (John Singh Wildlife Conservation Award) and an honorarium of ₹ 1 lakh. The second most prestigious award was presented to SUJAN JAWAI along with an honorarium of ₹ 50,000. Awardees & Their Contributions to Wildlife in Rajasthan:





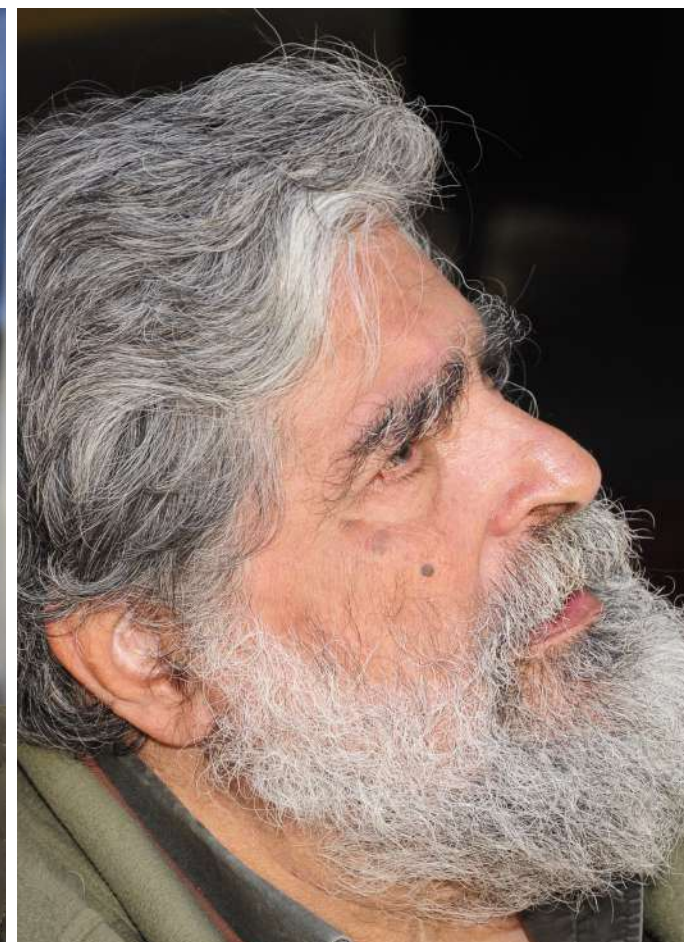
Senior investigative journalist Sh. Jay Mazoomdaar was keynote speaker.



Guests on the Fateh award ceremony



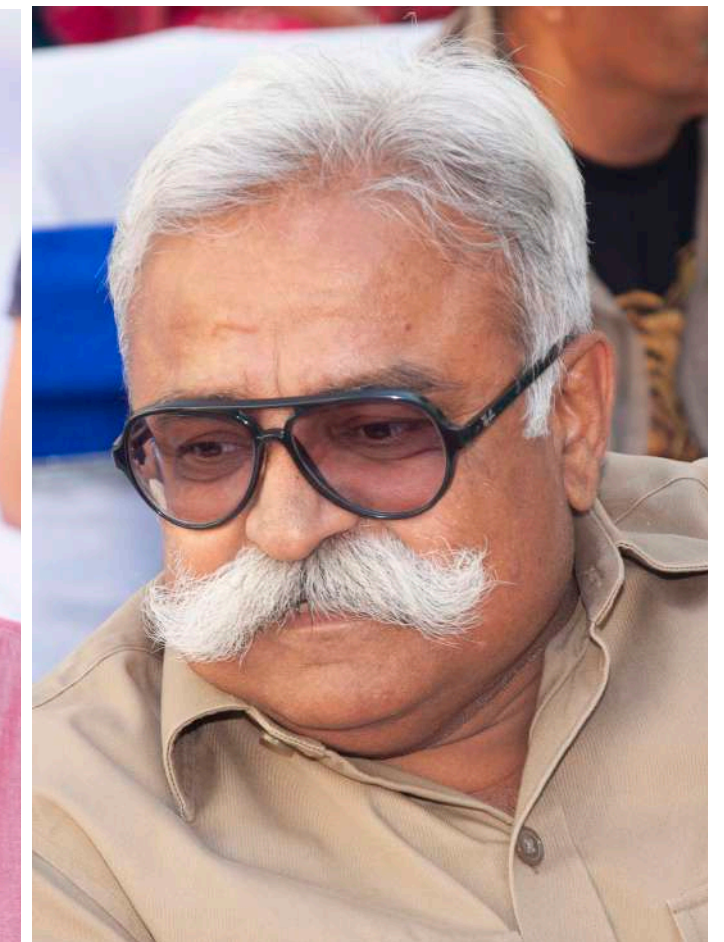
Shri Balendu Singh



Shri Valmik Thapar



Shri Pravin Pardeshi (Retd. IAS)



Dr. Goverdhan Singh Rathore





Sh. Praveen Pradeshi, Capacity Building Commission, Govt. of India was present as chief guest



Sh. Arijit Banerjee , IFS APCCF was present as special guest



The Shri Krishna Gaushala Samiti from Ramgarh-Shekhawati was honoured with the indigenous conservation model award (John Singh Wildlife Conservation Award) and an honorarium of ₹ 1 lakh.



The second most prestigious award was presented to SUJAN JAWAI along with an honorarium of ₹ 50,000.





Sh. Pankaj Gautam for his efforts in promoting conservation relevant tourism in Ranthambhore.



Additional tokens of appreciation were also presented to Sh. Nathu, a sanitation worker in Ranthambhore.



A devotional music performance was also provided by Sh. Rajmal Mogya and his son. Rajmal is a reformed tiger poacher who was arrested in 2006.



Dr. Sudhir Gupta for his pivotal role in the establishment of the Mukundara Hills Tiger Reserve in Hadoti.





Shri Valmik Thapar falicitating Shri Arijit Banerjee (APCCF) (L)



Shree Valmik Thapar falicitating Shri Praveen Pardeshi (Rtd. IAS)



Shri Ajit Singh (Rtd DGP- Rajasthan) falicitating Shri Jay Mazoomdaar



Shri Adity Singh and Smt. Poonam Singh with Dr. Dharmendra Khandal





Sh. Atul Jhala for his contributions towards ecotourism in the formative years of Ranthambhore



Dr. Dharmendra Khandal



Sh. Aditya Singh & Smt. Poonam Singh for protecting the wilderness in Badhnav and providing more space to tigers from Ranthambhore TR.



Sh. Moti Singh Rathore for his commendable efforts towards the protection of wildlife and restoration of habitat in a desert ecosystem in Rajasthan.





Sh. Ramkhiladi Gurjar for his commendable efforts towards the protection of wildlife in local communities.



Adv. Rituraj Singh Rathore for his efforts towards wildlife conservation in Rajasthan through the provision of legal protection.



Sh. Banwari Yadhuvanshi for his commendable efforts towards the conservation of wildlife in Hadoti.



Ramathra Fort for protecting the wilderness and introducing sustainable ecotourism to Karauli district.





Sh. Roop Singh Meena for sanitation drives in Sawai Madhopur district.



Additional tokens of appreciation was also presented to Sh. Angad Rana, an aspiring naturalist at Sherbagh



Sh. Shankar Singh Jadon for the protection of wildlife and habitat in the village of Simar near RTR.



Sh. Salim Ali for his efforts in promoting conservation relevant tourism in Ranthambhore





Respected guests on the award function



APCCF Shri Arijit Banerjee honoured Village Wildlife Volunteers team for their efforts in Dholpur district.



Old forest guards and supporters of Ranthambhore





Shri & Smt. Jay Mazoomdaar with Dharmendra Khandal



Sanjana Kapoor enjoying the musical performance of the local community



A musical performance by the local community



A musical performance by the local community





# Mogya Education Program

## Background:

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 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, 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 17 years of growth and progress. We are supported by Sud -Chemie India.

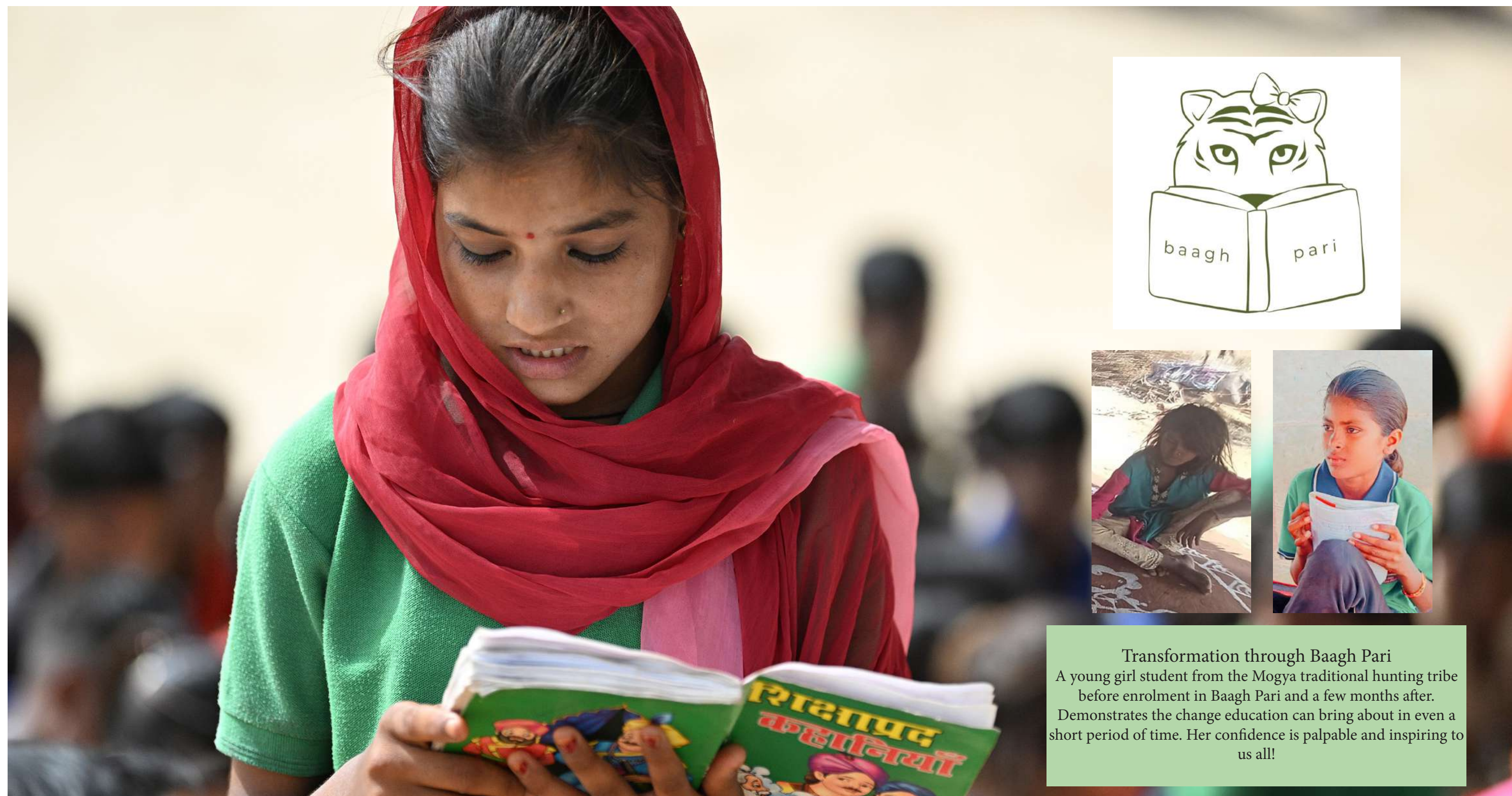
After a humble beginning with a batch of 9 Mogya children in 2006 in spartan premises generously provided by a progressive Forest Ranger, the program has grown from strength to strength and now boasts 188 children under its wing.

Ever since the onset of COVID -19, we have shifted the program to a model of home- schooling where 6 teachers (one of them a former Village Wildlife Volunteer) travel to village settlements to teach the Mogya students. This has enabled the program to expand to 188 students, and also for the very first time include Mogya girls!



Mogya children			
Villages	Total children	Boys	Girls
1. Halonda	19	12	7
2. Hindwad	37	20	17
3. Mui Khedli	42	24	18
4. Rodawat	15	9	6
5. Laxmipura	7	3	4
6. Badika	7	6	1
7. Gorehar	8	4	5
8. Jakhoda	7	3	4
9. Kemlya	9	5	4
10. Roshanpura	15	10	5
11. Kyarda Kalan	13	7	6
12. Dundipura	15	9	6
Total	194	111	83





# Baagh Pari

## Mogya Girls Education

For many years, we were often questioned on our inability to include girls from the Mogya traditional hunting tribe in the Mogya Education Program. In response, we cited socio-cultural reasons for the aversion of Mogya parents to the idea of their daughters being lodged in the then program hostel. There was simply no getting around this impasse at the time. However, once we shifted to a model of home-schooling with a team of 6 mobile teachers in 2020, it suddenly became possible to educate Mogya girl students along with their male peers.

**Transformation through Baagh Pari**  
A young girl student from the Mogya traditional hunting tribe before enrolment in Baagh Pari and a few months after. Demonstrates the change education can bring about in even a short period of time. Her confidence is palpable and inspiring to us all!

A completely unprecedented but welcome development. No longer limited by hostel infrastructure, the overall number of students the program could accommodate naturally increased and now includes 83 Mogya girl students from 11 villages. It was at this critical junction that Anjali Patel Mehta, founder of the sustainable luxury resort wear line Verandah and a member of Tiger Watch's board of directors, chose to launch and support Baagh Pari, a pioneering specialized initiative that seeks to consolidate and further encourage the recent gains being made in the education of Mogya girls.

At present, the initiative seeks to bolster the education of Mogya girls by providing specialized teacher training to our team of mobile teachers as well as by providing materials to Mogya girl students that significantly aid the learning process such as stationary, relevant reading material and appropriate clothing for a 'classroom' environment.



# The Dieter & Liz Gutmann Tiger Conservation Program

Mr. Dieter Gutmann and Mrs. Liz Gutmann have generously supported Tiger Watch led local community engagement in the Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve for the last 15 years, especially through our rehabilitation efforts of members of the Mogya traditional hunting tribe. The result was there for all to see, the tiger population rebounded to the highest it has ever been recorded, and today tigers are beginning to naturally repopulate areas outside Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve such as in Dholpur district. The rebound was such that Tiger Watch also initiated a new program called the Village Wildlife Volunteers which engages pastoral youth living on the peripheries of Ranthambhore in monitoring the burgeoning number of tigers moving outside the protected areas. They soon became a formidable team which also mitigated human-wildlife conflict and developed significant antipoaching credentials in their own right.

## Approach

However, while this is a marked improvement, there were still some gaps that required addressing and the Gutmanns have chosen to formulate and support a comprehensive umbrella program that rests on four pillars- 1. Vocational Training for the Hunting Tribe, 2. Science & Research 3. Conservation Awareness Program and 4. Capacity Building for Law Enforcement.



### 1. Vocational Training for the Mogya Traditional Hunting Tribe

While the Mogya Education Program brings about change through education for the next generation of the tribe, vocational training for older members of the tribe is necessary to wean the community off of poaching as much as possible. The Gutmanns' experience in providing a pension for the widow of Jugraj Mogya, a reformed tiger poacher has informed this endeavour.

### 2. Science & Research

Tiger Watch has published over 50 pioneering research studies which have sourced information from previously inaccessible landscapes in the greater Ranthambhore landscape and forged new horizons in wildlife conservation research. Research has focused on endangered and vulnerable species such as the caracal (*Caracal caracal*), gharial (*Gavialis gangeticus*) and grey wolf (*Canis lupus pallipes*). Such research is of vital importance for it has not only informed our own conservation interventions, but is also policy relevant both locally and nationally, as we saw with the change of the caracal's status in India to that of an endangered species in 2021 by the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (Government of India) following the publication of our study on distribution (Not be confused with the International Union for Conservation of Nature's (IUCN) status for the caracal).





### 3. Conservation Awareness Program

There is an urgent need to sensitize children of communities that will have an anthropogenic impact on Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve. Connecting the aforesaid children to their location and context in a meaningful manner and preparing them to act and participate in future conservation interventions is of the utmost importance for the long-term well-being of the Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve.

This is the core pillar of the Dieter & Liz Gutmann Tiger Conservation Program, and the scope includes 300 villages in and around the

Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve. The methodology here entails the identification of high and low priority villages in terms of anthropogenic pressure, the development of specialized awareness material, and the training of schoolteachers to impart conservation relevant education.

This large-scale intervention will be executed by a mobile team of 7 teachers led by a coordinator.

## रणथम्भौर के सांप

सांप का प्रकृति में एक अत्यंत महत्वपूर्ण स्थान है। सांप विभिन्न प्रकार के जीवों को अपना भोजन बनाकर उनकी संख्या को नियंत्रित करते हैं। रणधम्मौर में लगभग 30 प्रजातियों के सांप पाए जाते हैं। इनमें से माल 4 प्रजातियां ही विषैली होती हैं। विषैले सांप भी इंसानों से दूर रहने का प्रयास करते हैं।

सर्पदंश से बचाव के तरीके -

### रणथम्भौर के विषैले सर्प



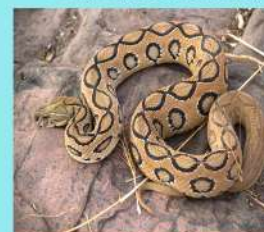
नाग (Indian Cobra)



करायत, बंधदार (Common Krait)



फोपस्या (Saw-Scaled Viper)



चित्ति (Russel's Viper)

। सबसे अधिक महत्वपूर्ण है संविदा से बचन, साथ अपने पारी के अंतर-यस अधिक नहीं पारने दुर्लभ  
 सिद्ध प्राप्त करना का भाव रखें। अक्सर युद्धों को सारे से सिद्ध हो साथ अपने पारी के महत्त्व के अन्त  
 है। तब का कमाव रखने के स्थानों को प्राप्त प्राप्त करें।

3 संघों की विशेष प्रशिक्षण को नियंत्रित करें, ताकि आप उनके व्यवहार को समझ सकें।

प्राथमिक उपचार

पान्थु तोर। इसका को साथ बदलते नहीं जाते, वह रक्त प्रवाह को रोक देता है। यह अतिरिक्त सुखभोग प्राप्त करता है।

4. यमजो का जना दोहाए / भाग्य चिकित्सागत एक पदुषार, इसके लिए यमज का इनामगत कर  
परि तुषिये यमज का इनामगत करे, तो दो जनों के बीच में विधि को देव कर अमरात लेकर  
लेना चाहिए।

हैं। अंतर्गत सेना के जवानों को भी इसमें शामिल करने के लिए प्रयास किए जा रहे हैं।

8. कई बार विभिन्नको को भी कईदा के इलाज कर अनुभव नहीं होता है, जहाँ आसपास के एवं विशेषतः दो अदृष्ट लेकर उनमें अनुभवी डॉक्टर से तथा परामर्श कराया जा सकता है।

Downloaded from <http://ajph.org/> at University of California, San Diego on June 11, 2015



4. Capacity Building for Law Enforcement

Tiger Watch also plays a role in building the capacity of agencies of both the state and central governments in key areas. Our long history of anti-poaching enables us to provide critical knowledge on identifying contraband from the illegal wildlife trade, the collection of evidence, as well as a backgrounder on traditional hunting tribes and trading communities such as the Mogyas, for which there are no readily available resources for law enforcement officers. So far, four principal law enforcement agencies and police detectives from 8 states in India have benefitted from this exercise. The continuation of such a public-private initiative is necessary to provide a robust response to the illegal wildlife trade.

Current Progress

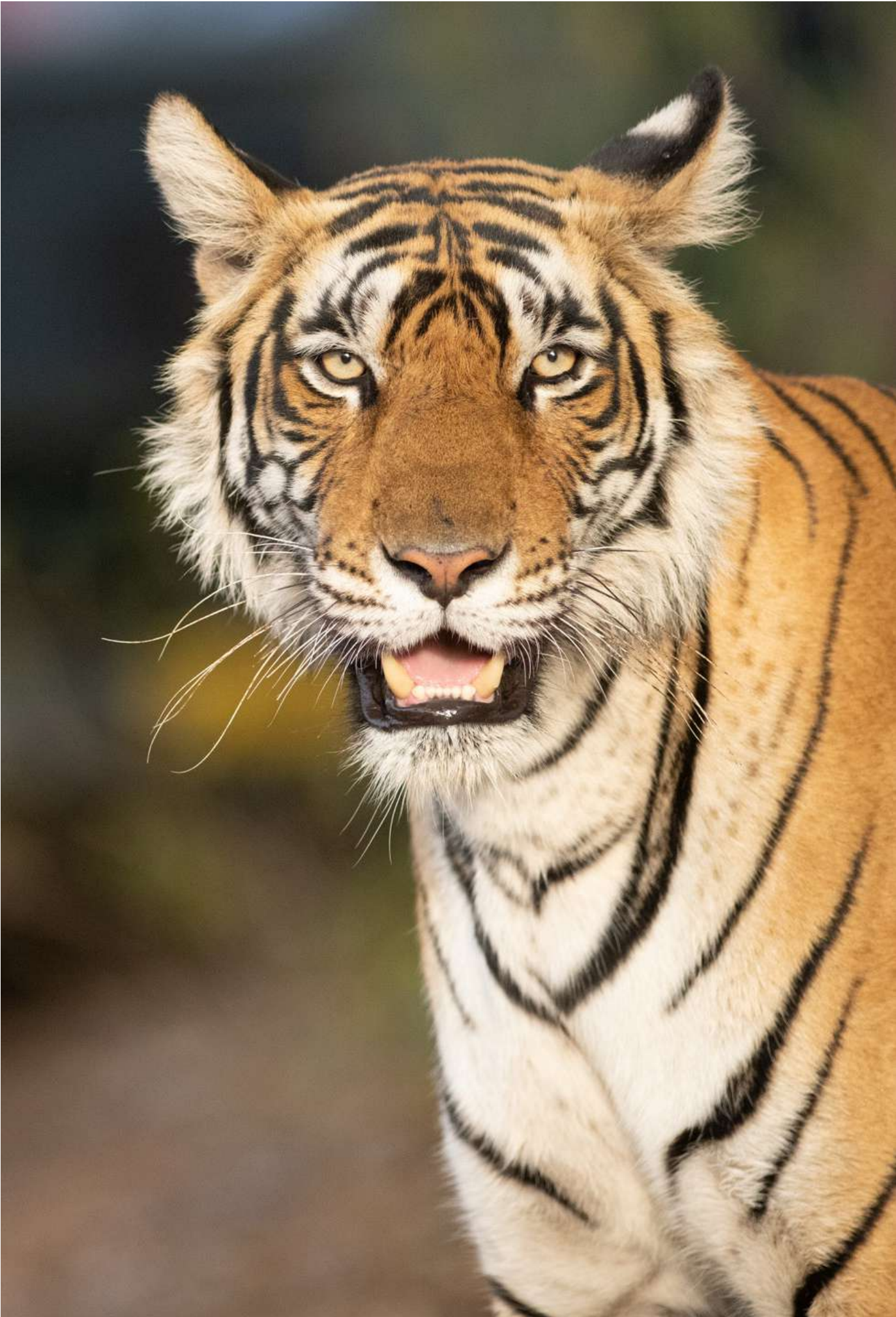
Our wildlife conservation awareness efforts first started under the auspices of the Bagh Mitra School Program in 2020. Infrastructural support such as libraries were built in 20 schools on the peripheries of Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve. Select wildlife conservation friendly literature in Hindi was also provided by Ektara India. What seemed like a promising start was unfortunately interrupted as a result of COVID-19 but has now fortunately not just been renewed, but also expanded under the auspices of the Dieter & Liz Gutmann Tiger Conservation Program.

The program is now making an impact in 40 key villages to start with:

- 1. Four teachers (all either graduates or postgraduates) have been hired.
- 2. The 4 teachers cover 40 villages bordering the Ranthambhore National Park and Sawai Mansingh Wildlife Sanctuary and cover 10,000 students. These are areas with high densities of tigers and a good place for the program to start. These villages are not benefitting from any other wildlife conservation education programs.
- 3. A 1-month training period for the teachers carried on from Monday, July 4th
- 4. Educational material in Hindi is currently being prepared. Following which, this material will be available for all to download on this webpage.



Tiger Watch



Tiger Watch



# Rajasthan Biodiversity network



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

### 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.

### 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 groundbreaking research expeditions across landscapes in Rajasthan. Any conservation interventions emanating from the network will be the most scientifically informed to date.

### Awareness:

Awareness is the 3rd pillar of the network. All the network's findings are available on an online portal. The network is also 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.

## Update

The network's website has made very significant strides towards becoming the most credible source of information on all matters relevant to the biodiversity of the state of Rajasthan. Every year 3-4 thousand people visit the website. To date, we have published 217 articles by 46 authors. The articles encompass a broad range of categories such as species, landscapes, conservation, and most recently to popular acclaim, the annals of history. Authorship has also been varied, and has included eminent individuals from multiple backgrounds, such as wildlife conservationist Sh. Valmik Thapar, investigative journalist Sh. Jay Mazoomdar, and veteran forest officer, Sh. Gobind Sagar Bharadwaj as well as individuals from local communities living near protected areas such as our very own Shiv Prakash Gurjer. Readership has been steadily increasing, and there is also positive feedback from outside the state of Rajasthan. In addition, updated species checklists for the state of Rajasthan, have been made available to the public on the website. We are also in the process of making all scientific literature on the flora and fauna of Rajasthan available on the website. While this is a mammoth undertaking, such consolidation will only serve the purpose of more nuanced wildlife conservation interventions, as well as encourage far more research with a tangible impact on ground zero. We also conducted two expeditions under this banner- Summer and Monsoon expeditions.



Mr. Abhimanyu Golcha

Abhimanyu Golcha has been Director of the Golcha Group since 1994. In this capacity, he leads a group of Industries which are engaged in Mining, Cosmetics, Cinemas and Banking. A nature lover with a soft spot for wildlife photography and local indigenous cultures, his love for Ranthambhore and his support for Tiger Watch led initiatives such as the Rajasthan Biodiversity Network, came about very naturally. He also serves on Tiger Watch's board of directors.



# Monsoon Expedition: Documentation of Aravali Orchids



Vanda tessellata



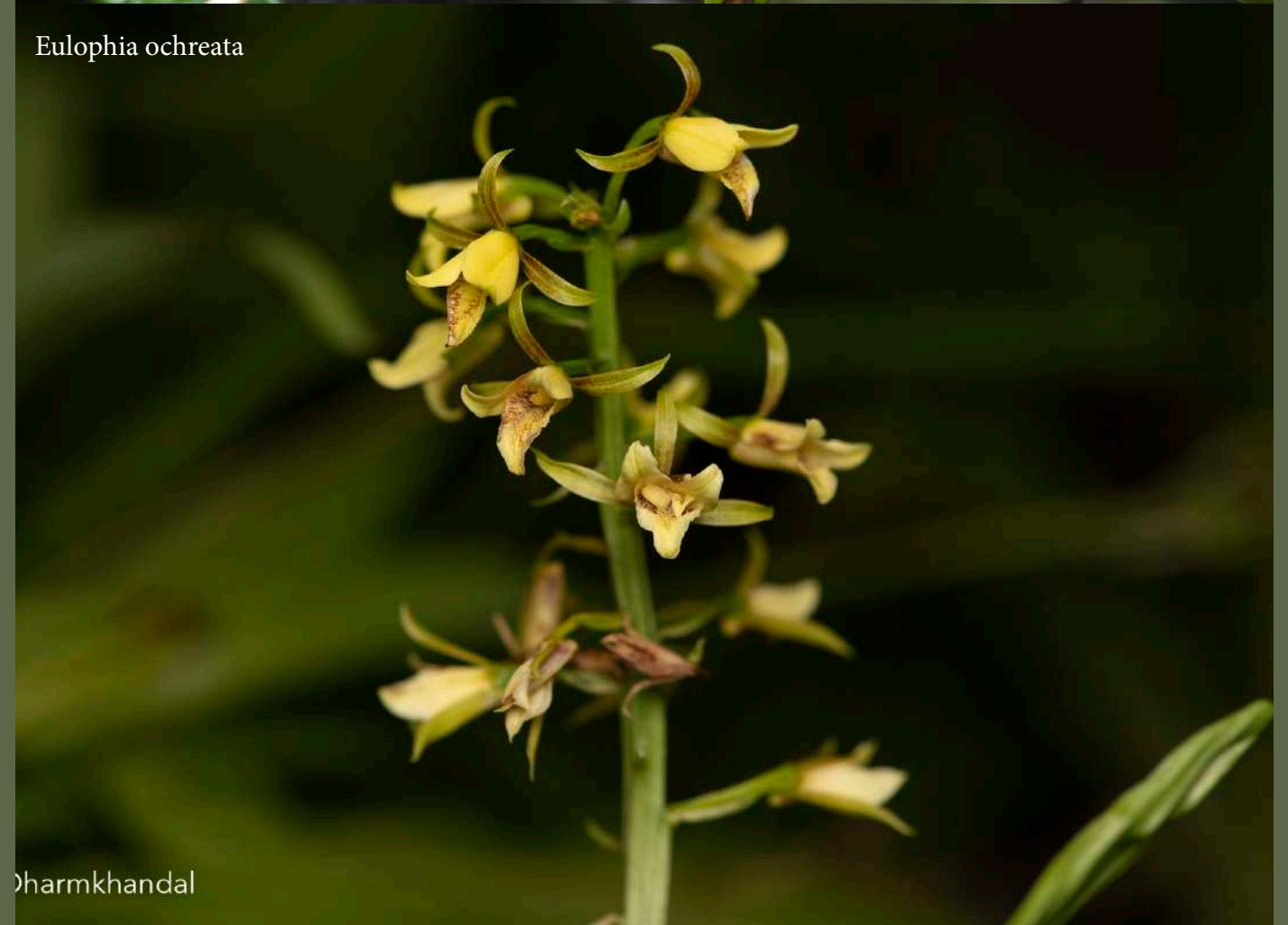
Eulophia herbacea

Dharmkhandal



Acampe praemorsa

Dharmkhandal



Eulophia ochreatea

Dharmkhandal





Habenaria longicorniculata



Habenaria furcifera

Dharmkhandal



Habenaria gibsonii



Peristylus constrictus



Dharmkhandal

Apipactis veratrifolia

## Monsoon Expedition: Documentation of Aravali Orchids



# Summer Expedition: Snakes of Thar



Afro-asian sand snake (*Psammophis schokari*)



Sindh awl-headed snake (*Lytorhynchus paradoxus*)



Sindh thread snake (*Myriopholis blanfordi*)

Dharmkhandal&Vivek S



Black-headed royal snake (*Spalerosophis atriceps*)

Dharmkhan



# Board Members



Iskander Lalljee



Mr. Ishan Dhar



Dr. Goverdhan Singh Rathore



Mr. Ashutosh Mahadevia



Mr. Sachin Rai



Mr. Abhimanyu Golcha



Mr. Punit Lalbhai



Ms. Anjali Patel Mehta



Mr. Rishad Naorji



Dr. Ajay Veer Khurana



Ms. Soonoo B. Tararporewala



Dr. Dharmendra Khandal



Admin team

- 1. Dr. Dharmendra Khandal
- 2. Mr. Ishan Dhar

Office & account team

- 1. Mr. Shiv Prakash Gurjar
- 2. Mr. Deepak Sahu

Mogya Education Program

- 1. Mr. Meetahlal Gurjar
- 2. Mr. Giriraj Singh Kushwaha
- 3. Mr. Manoj Gurjar
- 4. Mr. Inderraj Gurjar
- 5. Mr. Pintu Saini
- 6. Mr. Jeetmal Bairwa

Village Wildlife Vounteers

- 1. Mr. Harimohan Gurjar +3
- 2. Mr. DharmSingh Gurjar
- 3. Mr. Harisingh Gurjar +3
- 4. Mr. Bihari Singh Gurjar+ 1
- 5. Mr. Hanuman Gurjar
- 6. Mr. Lakhan Gurjar +2

Bagh Mitra Program

- 1. Mr. Dharm Singh Gurjar
- 2. Mr. Dasarth Gurjar
- 3. Mr. Rinku Yogi
- 4. Mr. Ramkesh Gurjar

# Field Team





## Tiger Watch Donation 2021-22

1	Sud Chemie India Pvt Ltd	20,00,000.00
2	SNS Foundation (Jaisal Singh & Anjali Singh)	10,00,000.00
3	Golcha Foundation	10,00,000.00
4	Panna Lalbhai Foundation	10,00,000.00
5	RTCF	6,31,708.00
6	Forest Friendly Camps Pvt Ltd (Jaisal Singh & Anjali Singh)	5,00,000.00
7	Studio APM Private Ltd (Anjali Patel Mehta)	3,00,000.00
8	Abhijat Trust- Arun & Ajinkya Firodia	3,00,000.00
9	Ms. Soonoo Barzo Taraporewala	3,00,000.00
10	Mr. Rahul Khosla	200000.00
11	Smt. Simal Kanuga	1,84,780.00
12	Phelps & Co. Pvt. Ltd.	1,50,000.00
13	Maniben Mehta Trust (Neha & Pranay Mehta)	100000.00
14	Khemvilas	100000.00
15	Green Build Enter Tech	60000.00
16	Shruti Jalan Aggarwal	30000.00
17	Mr. Irfan Quadar	30000.00
18	Apcotex Industries Limited	20000.00
19	Basanti Didwania	20000.00
20	EIH Limited	16500.00
21	Claire O'Neil Parekh	10000.00
22	Others	5000.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>7957988.00</b>

## Tiger Watch FCRA Donation 21-22

1	Dieter & Liz Gutmann	780520.00
	<b>Grand Total :-</b>	<b>87,38,508.00</b>

S U J Á N







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