



WWF

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REPORT

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WWF-India

Kerala State Office

ANNUAL REPORT 2015-2016





WWF's mission

***'To stop the degradation
of our planet's natural environment,
and build a future in which
humans live in harmony with nature'***

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We would like to take this opportunity to thank one and all who have contributed in some way or the other, directly or indirectly, to help us fulfill our mission of nature conservation and environment protection, mainly with regard to the needs of Kerala State.

We express our special thanks and regards to *Mr. Ravi Singh*, Secretary General & CEO who has always given ear to all our requests and supported us in immense ways in fulfilling our mission well. Our special thanks goes to *Dr. Sejal Worah*, Programme Director who has always guided us with her advice and inputs. We extend our thanks to *Mr. Karan Bhalla*, Chief Operating Officer, *Mr. Vivek Dayal*, Director-Finance, *Mr. Lovekesh Wadhwa*, Director-Institutional Development, *Gp. Cpt. Naresh Kapila*, and Director-HR & Manpower. The support given by the other heads and staff at the Secretariat are also duly acknowledged, namely *Ms. Vishaish Uppal*, *Dr.T.S. Panwar*, *Dr. Shekar Kumar Niraj*, *Ms. Moulika Arabhi*, *Mr. Vinod M.* and others.

We would like to place on record our most sincere thanks to *Mr. G. Vijaya Raghavan*, Chairman and *Mr.C. Balagopal*, Vice-Chairman of the Kerala State Advisory Board for all their guidance and support. *Mr. A.V.George*, *Mr. Suresh Elamon*, *Mr. Ravi DeeCee*, *Dr. C. Bhaskaran*, *Mr. Sunilkumar*, *Prof. Saji Gopinath*, Members of the SAB was always there by our side with all possible support whenever and wherever we have needed them. The work freedom that they have given us is what has helped us to reach such heights.

We would like to thank all our supporters, partners and associates in our various projects i.e. Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, GoI, CPREEC, Chennai, Kerala Forests and Wildlife Department, Department of Environment and Climate Change, GoK, Department of Museums & Zoos, Kerala State Biodiversity Board, KSEB, Energy Management Centre, WISE Pune, Allianz Cornhill, HSBC, other government and non-government departments. Our wide range of EE programmes would not have been possible without the help and support of various departments and agencies, namely MoEF & CC, KSBB, CED, AMAS, and a host of others.

We would like to thank all the District Coordinators who have invested time and resources in supporting us in our various programmes and has also gone one step ahead in bringing up their own initiatives in organizing environment education and awareness programmes and also in addressing local conservation issues. We thank all our network members i.e. volunteers, intern students, partners, nature clubs, youth clubs, church based institutions, schools and colleges and all others who have partnered in fulfilling our mission in the State. We would like to place on record our gratitude to our media friends in The New Indian Express and The Hindu for their full fledged support to all our projects and programmes by giving very good coverage through the print media. We also thank *Mr. Godfrey Das*, *Mr. Anand Godfrey* and *Ms. Sreelekha*, Godfrey's Graphics for all their support in making our collaterals like invitations, posters, handbooks, exhibition panels etc.

Renjan Mathew Varghese
(State Director)

FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S DESK

It gives me immense pleasure to present to you the Annual Report of WWF-India Kerala State Office for 2015-16. With a very small team and limited resources available, the Team has been able to go a long way in living out the mission of WWF in the State.

In the last year, we have been continuing with the two major ongoing projects 'Preparation of a Position Paper on Climate Change in Kerala which has helped us to understand in-depth the impacts of Climate Change in our State and also comprehensively compile the various developments in relation to the subject from across the State covering Government Departments, Universities, R&D Institutions, NGOs etc. and the project titled 'Landuse/ Landform alterations due to Laterite Quarrying and Mining in Kerala and its Environmental Impacts' has helped us to get a clear insight into the process of laterite quarrying and its direct and indirect impacts on the various sectors like landuse change, topography alterations, hydrology, socio-economic impacts etc. One another very important aspect that we could study as part of the project was the occupational hazards involved in laterite quarrying, mainly on the migrant workers from Bihar, Assam, Orissa and West Bengal. In both the projects, we have been able to give clear and strong suggestions to the State Government on how to move forward.

The Green Partnership Programme with the Kerala Forests and Wildlife Department has also helped us go a long way in fulfilling our mission in the State. The birding programmes, namely, Heronry Count, Common Bird Monitoring Bird Programme/ Onam Bird Count, Asian Waterfowl Census, Sparrow Survey have all been really fruitful in doing whatever possible for our feathered friends who are losing their habitats i.e. trees, wetlands etc. in the name of development.

The Free CFL Campaign as part of 'Going beyond the Hour' as part of Earth Hour 2016 is still continuing and we have been able to take the CFLs distributed freely to the right hands, i.e. families from the economically backward section of the society. We have been able to accomplish this campaign with the help of many individuals and institutions and I thank them for their efforts and proactive involvement with us.

As in previous years, this year also we had a whole full-fledged range of environment education, awareness and outreach programmes in the form of observation of environmentally important days, seminars, symposiums, workshops, Friday Forum, Sunday Bird Walk etc. Through these wide range of programmes, we have been able to address the different issues around us and have also been able to touch base with different sections of the society, especially youth and children.

Our Volunteer Engagement Programme has been a real exciting journey this year. In the past years, we have done many programmes involving Volunteers and I can proudly say that, in the WWF-India Offices Network, Kerala State Office must be leading in organizing programmes involving so many volunteers. Through the Volunteer Engagement Programme, we have been able to interact with the volunteers on a more structured and organized manner.

Due credit goes to the State Office Team also for their relentless efforts every day in fulfilling the WWF Mission in the State.

G. Vijaya Raghavan

FROM THE STATE DIRECTOR'S DESK

With great excitement, I present the Annual Report for 2015-16.

When I was compiling the Annual Report and looking back at the hours, days, weeks and months of year gone-by, which have been really filled with projects, programmes and activities aimed at fulfilling the mission of WWF in the State, I feel overwhelmed with all that we have been able to accomplish with the limited manpower and resources available with us and also I feel grateful to many individuals and institutions who helped us in accomplishing this by partnering with us in various ways.

We have been able to carry out and complete some very relevant projects which has some major impacts in the State, namely the projects on 'Preparation of Position Paper on Climate Change in Kerala' and 'Landuse/ Landform alterations due to Laterite Mining and Quarrying in Kerala and its Environmental Impacts' carried out for the Dept. of Environment and Climate Change, Govt. of Kerala. We have been able to engage a lot of volunteers in our various programmes, mainly bird surveys and census, carried out as part of the Green Partnership Programme of the Kerala Forests and Wildlife Department. The Volunteer Engagement Programme has helped us to streamline our interactions with our volunteer's network and we plan to take it forward in a better way and also expand it to reach other districts of the State also.

From the State Office, we have been able to give support to the other Programme Division in WWF-India Secretariat, namely, with the Climate Change and Energy Programme as part of the study on Kerala and specifically Palakkad District going 100% Renewable Energy by 2030. We have always had very constant interaction with the Western Ghats – Nilgiris Landscape Programme since its inception and it still continues. The comprehensive study on Nilgiri Tahr carried out covering Kerala and Tamil Nadu was very significant and the report release function organized in Thiruvananthapuram along with the Wildlife Week Celebrations was a remarkable event. With Vinod, Senior Co-ordinator, Marine Programme based in Kochi, we have had very constant interactions with him under the Marine Programme and we have been part and parcel of all that has happened in Kerala under this Programme including the Smart Fishing Initiative organized at Kochi. We have also been having regular interactions with TRAFFIC-India by sending wildlife mortality/ trade reports in the prescribed format to them as it happens in Kerala and also we have been part of the Workshop on Strengthening Wildlife Law Enforcement' organized at Parambikulam Tiger Reserve.

Our diverse environment education, awareness and outreach programmes, namely Media Workshop addressing Human – Animal Conflicts, National Environment Awareness Programme, Urja Kiran – Energy Conservation Awareness Programme, Wild Wisdom Quiz, Paaristhithikam – State Environment Awareness Programme, observation of environmentally important days, initiatives in connection with our Nature Clubs etc., our Nature Camping Programme covering various habitats in different locations etc.

We have been able to proactively respond to some of the policy and advocacy level issues in the State through different approaches, namely, contributing to the revision of National Forest Policy facilitated by IIFM, submit our representation to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Science, Technology, Environment and Forests and also participate in the NGO Consultation held at Kochi, partner with KFRI in fighting Invasive Alien Species, contribute technically to the revision of the National Marine Fisheries Policy through KSMTF and NFF, contributed to strengthening Participatory Forest Management (PFM) in the State facilitated by ELDF, New Delhi and also curbing wildlife poaching and trade through our interaction with TRAFFIC-India and Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB).

Outside our programme, we have been able to associate in many more programmes organized by others including Government Departments, R&D Institutions, NGOS etc. and contribute in various ways. We have also participated in many exhibitions organized by others by putting up our exhibition stall with our awareness and outreach materials and also promoting sales of our conservation products. We have also given a platform for two students to do their internships in our office.

We have also come out regularly with our bimonthly newsletter 'Mruthika' compiling relevant news on nature and environment from across the global, from within our country and also from our State, incorporating general information on flora and fauna, write-ups of experience and other creative materials from participants of our various programmes etc. and printing 1000 copies of the same for each issue and dispatching it to our network members within and outside the State. We have also contributed many other general write-ups and articles through newspapers, magazines etc. and also published papers through journals and proceedings of seminars, symposiums and workshops.

We have also been regular and proactive through our Facebook page and also through the Yahoo and Google Mailing Groups reaching out to our network members with regard to our upcoming programmes and events, also other updates and sharing of relevant information and reports.

So much has been done.....but still so much to do....because the challenges are many

Renjan Mathew Varghese

STATE OFFICE PROFILE

**Mr. Renjan Mathew Varghese,
State Director**

(2006 – Till date)

**Mr. A.K. Sivakumar
Senior Education Officer**

(2000 – Till date)

**Ms. Pushpakumari L.
Accounts & Admn Officer**

(1986 – Till date)

**Mr. Harishkumar
Administrative Assistant**

(1998 – Till date)

STATE ADVISORY BOARD PROFILE

Mr. G. Vijaya Raghavan

Chairman

(Member, Kerala State Planning Board & Director, SunTec)

Mr. C. Balagopal,

Vice-Chairman

(Former Managing Director, Terumo Penpol)

Mr. A.V. George,

Member

(Chairman, AVG Group of Companies)

Dr.C. Bhaskaran,

Member

(Professor, Dept. of Extension, Kerala Agricultural University)

Mr. Ravi DeeCee,

Member

(CEO, DC Books)

Mr. C. Sunilkumar,

Member

(Senior News Photographer, Mathrubhumi & Member, State Wildlife Board)

Prof. Saji Gopinath,

Member

(Associate Professor, Indian Institute of Management – Kozhikode)

Mr. Suresh Elamon,

Member

(Wildlife Photographer & Film Maker)

SUPPORTERS

- Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change (MoEF&CC), Govt. of India, New Delhi
- WWF-India Secretariat, New Delhi
- TRAFFIC-India, New Delhi
- Department of Environment and Climate Change (DoECC), Govt. of Kerala
- C.P. Ramaswamy Environment Education Centre (CPREEC), Chennai
- Energy Management Centre (EMC), Govt. of Kerala
- Kerala State Biodiversity Board (KSBB), Govt. of Kerala
- Department of Museums & Zoos, Govt. of Kerala
- Kerala State Electricity Board, Govt. of Kerala
- Kerala Birder & Yuhina Eco Media
- Allianz Cornhill, Technopark Campus, Thiruvananthapuram
- Forests and Wildlife Department (KFD), Govt. of Kerala
- HSBC

PARTNERS

- District Administration, Thiruvananthapuram
- Corporation of Thiruvananthapuram
- CCDU, Dept. of Water Resources, Govt. of Kerala
- Kerala State Council for Science, Technology & Environment, Govt. of Kerala
- GeoVin Solutions Pvt. Ltd., Thiruvananthapuram
- WISE, Pune
- Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE) CERC, Alappuzha
- Centre for Environment and Development (CED), Thiruvananthapuram
- Centre for Innovation in Science and Social Action (CISSA), Thiruvananthapuram
- Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI), Govt. of India
- Academy for Mountaineering and Adventure Sports (AMAS), Neyyattinkara
- Junior Chamber International (JCI Kochi)
- Zoo Outreach Organisation (ZOO), Coimbatore
- Dept. of Aquatic Biology & Fisheries, University of Kerala
- Kerala Forest Research Institute (KFRI), Peechi, Thrissur
- Kerala Swathanthra Matsya Thozhilali Federation (KSMTF), Thiruvananthapuram
- National Fish workers Forum (NFF)
- Kerala Sasthra Sahithya Parishad (KSSP)
- Kerala Social Service Society (KSSS)
- Mar Theophilus Training College (MTTC), Thiruvananthapuram
- Warblers & Waders, Thiruvananthapuram

- People For Animals (PFA), Thiruvananthapuram
- Sai Gramam, Thiruvananthapuram
- Thanal, Thiruvananthapuram
- HELP Foundation, Paravur, Kollam
- PRS Hospital, Killipalam, Thiruvananthapuram
- Tree Walk, Thiruvananthapuram
- Green Community
- National Service Scheme (NSS)
- National Cadet Corps (NCC)
- National Green Corps (NGC)
- MNREGS Workers
- Schools in Thiruvananthapuram

MEDIA

- I&PRD, Govt. of Kerala
- The New Indian Express
- The Hindu
- Godfrey's Graphics

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Conservation Projects and Programmes

1.1 Projects

1.1.1 Preparation of Position Paper on Climate Change in Kerala

In the background of the formation of the National Action Plan on Climate Change and the State Action Plan for Climate Change in Kerala, the Dept. of Environment and Climate Change, Govt. of Kerala has entrusted the project 'Preparation of Position Paper on Climate Change in Kerala'. In this background, we have tried to prepare the paper in the most comprehensive manner and to the must current level including expert papers with regard to contributing and impacted sectors of Climate Change, completed and ongoing projects. Expertise and infrastructure available, seminars, symposiums, workshops conducted on the theme of Climate Change, M.Sc, M.Phil and Ph.D on the topic of Climate Change etc. We have immense data and information on Climate Change from across Kerala and we are in the process of compiling the same into the position paper. Mr. Roshanlal, a Volunteer from UK has been working on drafting the position paper under the guidance of the State Director using the sectoral papers contributed by experts and from all the other secondary and primary data that have been collected and compiled from various sources across Kerala as part of this project. We are now in the process of refining the position paper and creating a draft for wider circulation among the experts who contributed to the paper and also other stakeholders in the sector of climate change. Based on the comments and suggestions received, the paper will be refined by the State Director in the coming days and the draft submitted to the funding agency i.e. Dept. of Environment and Climate Change, Govt. of Kerala and based on their feedback and suggestions, the paper will be modified and the final position paper submitted.

1.1.2 Landuse/ Landform alterations due to Laterite Mining & Quarrying in Kerala and its Environmental Impacts

The project being carried out for the Department of Environment and Climate Change is nearing completion. We are mainly trying to analyze the landuse change, topography alteration and its impact on hydrology and other socio-economic sectors. One of the new revelation was the heavy negative impact of the laterite cutting process on the health and well-being of the workers involved, mainly migrant laborers from Assam, Bihar, Orissa and West Bengal. The field data collection and compilation is over. We understand that there is active laterite quarrying from 7 of the 14 districts of Kerala. We have covered all the quarries listed under the Department of Mining and Geology and comprehensively covered them in the field. Now the remote sensing data analysis part is being carried out by GeoVin Solutions Pvt. Ltd. Time series data, i.e. data of the same area for two different time periods is being used to really understand and analyze the magnitude and extent of

Photo Gallery



Neeruravakalude Nerarivuthedi Inauguration



Students with the Vetiver saplings



Bird Co-ordinators Meeting



Heronry Count 2016 Orientation Programme



CBMP Orientation Programme



CBMP Field Survey

the impact of the quarrying process. The limited hydrological data available from various sources, with data from the nearest test wells of the quarrying sites will be used to analyze the impact on hydrology i.e. the water table. But the output will have its own limitations because of the limited input data. We could not purchase the ground water data from the respective Government Departments since they are heavily priced, which was not envisaged in the proposal and the budget of the project. Once the remote sensing data analysis is over, the draft report will be initially submitted to the funding agency. Based on their comments and feedback, the report will be refined and the Final Project Report submitted with strong comments and suggestions for interventions.

1.1.3 'Neeruravakalude Nerarivukalthedi (Pond protection)'

'Neeruravakalude Nerarivukalthedi (Pond protection)' - a joint initiative of WWF-India Kerala State Office, Academy for Mountaineering and Adventure Sports (AMAS-Kerala), Social Forestry Division of Kerala Forests & Wildlife Department, Neyyattinkara Municipality and National Service Scheme (NSS-Higher Secondary) is a project launched as part of World Environment Day 2015 to plant Vetiver as protective green wall around the waterbodies in and around Neyyattinkara Municipality to promote soil and water conservation. The launch of the programme was carried out by Smt. Sugathakumari Teacher, noted environmentalist and poetess on August 13 at a function in Pangode presided over by Sri. Unniyal IFS, PCCF (Social Forestry).

1.1.4 Green Partnership Programme (GPP) with Kerala Forests & Wildlife Dept.

GPP is a recent initiative of the State Government implemented through the Kerala Forests & Wildlife Department to make conservation and protection activities outside forest areas more participatory. In this regard, several NGOs have been identified who has the experience and expertise in this field to associate and co-ordinate with the Department to take up various surveys, enumeration and other field monitoring exercises. WWF has been assigned the responsibility of co-ordinating such events in the three southern districts of Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam and Pathanamthitta. These initiatives includes Asian Waterfowl Census, Common Bird Monitoring Programme or Onam Bird Count, Heronry Count, Sparrow Survey, Pelagic Bird Survey etc.

Bird Survey Coordinators Meeting

Mr. A.K. Sivakumar, Senior Education Officer and two Volunteers cum Expert Birders, Mr.C.Harikumar and Mr.Jaichand Johnson attended the two days meeting of the Co-ordinators of Bird Documentation activities in Kerala that was organized by Indian Bird

Conservation Network (IBCN) and College of Forestry, Thrissur. They contributed in the discussions and deliberations on improving the upcoming documentation activities.

Heronry Count

Kerala State Office is doing the Heronry Count in three southern districts of Kerala under the GPP. Mr. Sivakumar led an orientation session for the volunteers of AMAS and NSS of Neyyatinkara on Heronry Count. The session detailed on heronries, their protection issues and the enumeration techniques involved at the field level. They were given field training to carry out the Heronry Count in their own locality. This year, in Thiruvananthapuram district (25 heronries), Kollam district (1) and Pathanamthitta (7) were surveyed. The survey was led by Sivakumar, Jaichand Johnson and Hari Mavelikara.

Onam Bird Count

Orientation sessions for conducting the participatory Common Bird Monitoring Programme (Onam Bird Count) during Onam vacation was led by Sivakumar and Jaichand Johnson on 18th August at Govt. College for Women and Loyola School, Thiruvananthapuram respectively. On the next day it was conducted at SN College, Kollam for the participants from Kollam District. The field level activities as part of the Onam Bird Count was coordinated from the Kerala State Office by Sivakumar in Thiruvananthapuram and Kollam districts and by Hari Mavelikara in Pathanamthitta District. More than 500 bird lists were submitted from these three districts.

Asian Waterfowl Census 2016

AWC 2016 was carried out in three southern districts of the State by WWF-India with the support Social Forestry wing of Kerala Forests & Wildlife Department. It started at Kollam on 9th January at 6 sites with the participation of 34 members. The result was very disappointing with a drastic fall of number of birds to 5303 from last year's 7620. The same in Pathanamthitta was held on 17th January at again 6 sites with the participation of 22 birders and experts. Though the number of species fell down by one the number of birds increased from 3053 to 4228. The last AWC in Thiruvananthapuram was held on 26th Jan with the participation of 35 members at 6 sites. A considerable hike of 30% in the number birds gave a positive trend but the habitats were losing its quality and area at all sites. AWC was led by Sri.P.K.Uthaman, A.K.Sivakumar, C.Harikumar, Jaichand Johnson, Neha Waikar, Sujith V Gopalan, CG Arun, Kiran RC and Govind G.

1.1.5 Free CFL Distribution

As part of 'Going beyond the Hour' of Earth Hour 2015, WWF-India, Kerala State Office is distributing free CFLs (two each for a family) to economically underprivileged people

Photo Gallery



Free CFL distribution in Peppara WLS as part of 'Going beyond the Hour' for Earth Hour



Free CFL distribution in Podiyakkala Tribal Settlement within Peppara WLS



CFL distribution in Neyyattinkara

CFL distribution in Poovar

Photo Gallery



Asian Waterfowl Census at Kollam



Asian Waterfowl Census at Pathanamthitta



Asian Waterfowl Census at Thiruvananthapuram

in association with KSEB, EMC and DoECC. As part of this, on 8th July 2015, 800 CFLs were distributed at Pozhiyur, Kanchampazhinji and Poovar lying along the coastal belt of Thiruvananthapuram district. Sivakumar and Harish Kumar, Administrative Assistant led the activity along with Mr. Michael, a Social Activist of the area and our regular associate.

In the second phase, we distributed CFLs in Peppara WLS at Podiyam and Podiyakkala Tribal Settlements for 206 families. Each family was given two CFLs each for reducing their power consumption. It was an informal and indirect method of conveying the message of mitigating Global Warming and Climate Change through adopting energy conservation.

In the third phase, we distributed 2 CFLs each in 240 tribal houses of Agasthyavanam Biological Park on 12th February. It was led by Senior Education Officer at Pankaavu in the forenoon session and Mankode in the afternoon session. Mr. Harish Kumar and Ms. Bini also gave necessary support in the programme.

1.1.6 Marine Turtle Conservation Project along Kerala Coast

We have initiated the Marine Turtle Conservation Project along Kerala Coast funded by Johnson Lifts for the next one year. The project envisages a totally participatory approach towards Marine Turtle Conservation. We have got in touch with the local conservation groups like Naithal in Kasargod, Theeram in Kolavipalam, Green Habitat in Thrissur and other such groups and we are trying to understand their mandate and activities and give necessary capacity building and infrastructure support. We are also contacting the Social Forestry ACFs posted in coastal areas to understand the initiation, functioning and the present status of Turtle Clubs in Schools in coastal areas. The initial discussion on the project was held on 21st January 2016 at Kochi between Mr. Renjan, State Director and Mr. Vinod, Co-ordinator, Marine Programme. The Inception Report has been prepared and submitted to the funding agency through WWF-India Secretariat.

Based on the initial discussions with Mr. Vinod held in Kochi, we have initiated the activities of the project. A letter in Malayalam has been drafted explaining the project to be sent to the local conservation groups inviting their full participation in the project and requesting an appointment with them at their field site itself so that we can visit the site, understand the work that they are carrying out and also discuss and work out the details on their field level requirements and how we can jointly work on addressing them through this project. With regard to the education, outreach and awareness programmes through the existing Turtle Clubs under the Social Forestry Division of Kerala Forests

and Wildlife Department, the ACFs posted along the coastal stretch of Kerala is being contacted over phone to get the details of the clubs and their activities.

1.1.7 Sparrow Survey

Continuing from the previous year, WWF-India organized the House Sparrow Survey this year also on 18th & 20th of March 2016 in and around Thiruvananthapuram as part of World Sparrow Day. The survey was carried out in selected pockets with the objective of creating an authentic statistics of these cute and common birds for the first time ever in the City. This exercise now running into the second year and expected to be carried out in the coming years also and its output will be useful for further studies, strategic planning and implementing impactful conservation initiatives. The survey mainly covered eight sites - Palayam - Connemara Market, Chalai Market, Trivandrum Central Railway Station, Trivandrum Central KSRTC Bus Terminal, East Fort Bus Terminal, Valiyathura – Shanghumugham, Peroorkada Market, Coastal stretch of Vallakkadavu – Sulaiman Street – Bheemapally – Poonthura. The survey was conducted on both the days during the same time period from 6.30-8.30am. All the eight teams had a mix of both officials and volunteers of WWF-India who are regular participants of monthly Sunday Bird Walks, Kerala Bird Race, Asian Waterfowl Census, Heronry Count, Common Bird Monitoring Programme etc. The survey teams were led by A.K.Sivakumar, Jaichand Johnson, Arun C.G., Govind G., Neha Waikar, Rahana Rafeek and L. Pushpakumari. The survey exercise promotes the involvement of volunteers and budding birdwatchers from various sections of the society since spotting and counting sparrows does not need that much of an expertise and experience.

1.1.8 CBMP/ Bird Atlas Prototype

Kerala State Office has been part of the Common Bird Monitoring Programme and this time we have done this as a prototype of the Bird Atlas of Thiruvananthapuram district in the background of the discussion with Dr. Nameer and others on the proposal to develop a formal Bird Atlas for Kerala in the coming days. In the present exercise, we have covered 37 different locations across the district with the help of our volunteer team.

1.2 Support to other Programme Areas

1.2.1 Report Release & Stakeholder Workshop of 100% RE for Palakkad District

WWF-International has completed a project titled 'The Energy Report - 100% Renewable Energy by 2050'. In this background, a similar study was conducted for India and then for Kerala also. Once the findings for the Kerala Study was tabled in the meeting attended by representatives of the State Planning Board, KSEBL, EMC, ANERT and others, it was recommended that the project cannot be implemented in one go for the whole State and

Photo Gallery



The Energy Report – 100% RE for Palakkad District – Report release function in Palakkad



Dignitaries with the report



Dr Sejal speaking in the event at Trivandrum



The dignitaries and participants of the Trivandrum function

hence a pilot project needs to be carried out in one district and Palakkad was selected for the same. The study was carried out by WWF and WISE Pune with comprehensive primary and secondary data collection, institutional visits and extensive consultation with experts and stakeholders. The report is ready for release.

The report release functions were organized at Palakkad on 3rd September and at Trivandrum on 4th Sept. In the event organized at Hotel Indraprastha, Palakkad, the inauguration was done by the Deputy Collector. Around 20 stakeholders from the energy sector attended the workshop. The team of Dr.T.S.Panwar, Ms. Jincy Joy and Renjan Mathew Varghese from WWF-India and Mr. Suhas Tendulkar and Mr. Rajju John from WISE Pune led the discussions and deliberations.

In the event at Trivandrum, organized in the Conference Hall of ANERT, Mr. L. Radhakrishnan IAS (retd), Adviser to Kerala CM inaugurated the workshop and released the report. The report was received by Sri. G. Vijaya Raghavan, Member, State Planning Board. Dr. Sejal Worah, Programme Director, WWF-India led the discussions and deliberations. Prof. V.K. Damodaran, Mr. Dhareshan Unnithan, Director, EMC, KSEB Officers and many others attended the workshop. A Press Conference was also arranged at the Trivandrum Press Club at 11am prior to the stakeholder workshop and report release function. The copies of the full and its summary translated into Malayalam has been made available to all concerned individuals including Chairman and Members of the Kerala State Electricity Regulatory Commission (KSERC).

1.2.2 Support to the Marine Programme

WWF International convened the meeting on 'Smart Fishing Initiative' in Kochi on 18th & 19th November at The Gateway Hotel. Participants from around 40 countries, mainly from WWF Offices, attended the two days' workshop followed by field exposure. The State Director joined Dr. Sejal Worah, Programme Director, WWF-India and Mr. Vinod Malayilethu, Senior Co-ordinator, Marine Programme in providing all possible logistics and local support.

After the SFI Meeting in Kochi, the State Director was requested to accompany Ms. Louise Heaps, Consultant, Marine Programme, WWF-UK and Ms. Ema Fatima, Programme Officer, Marine Programme, WWF-India on a recon visit along the coast of Thiruvananthapuram on 22nd November to understand the land, its people and their issues. Interactions were also arranged with the various stakeholders including local fishermen, leaders of fishermen movements like Mr. Peter of NFF and Mr. Anto of KSMTE, Fr. Eugene Pereira of the Latin Catholic Church and Dr. Sanjeev Ghosh, Additional Director (retd), Fisheries Dept., Govt. of Kerala.

1.2.3 Wildlife Trade/ Mortality reporting to TRAFFIC-India

Instances of wildlife trade and mortality are reported to TRAFFIC-India in the prescribed format. The number of reports sent in 2015-16 includes:

Months	No. of reports
April 2015	2
May 2015	2
June 2015	2
July 2015	2
August 2015	1
September 2015	4
October 2015	4
November 2015	1
December 2015	1
January 2016	2
February 2016	2
March 2016	2
Total	25

1.2.4 Workshop on 'Strengthening Wildlife Law Enforcement in India' by TRAFFIC

TRAFFIC-India along with the Kerala Forests and Wildlife Department organized the workshop on Aug 20 & 21 at Parambikulam WLS mainly targeting officers of the various enforcement agencies including the Forest Department, Police, Customs and Excise, WCCB, STF and others. The State Office provided all possible logistics support and the State Director and the Senior Education Officer attended the workshop.

1.2.5 Accompany SG & CEO to Parambikulam & Anamalai TR

The SG & CEO visited Parambikulam and Anamalai TR from 20 – 22 December. The State Director, Mr. Boominathan, Co-ordinator, WGNL Programme, Mr. Thomas Samuel, Co-ordinator, Community Engagement and Livelihood Programme and Mr. Tiju Thomas, Programme Co-ordinator accompanied the SG on his field visit. There was very good interaction and discussions. Vehicle safari, bamboo rafting etc. were also arranged. Interactions were also arranged separately with the Deputy Directors of both the TRs. The sighting of Leopard and Sloth Bear were additional bonus of the three days field visit.

Photo Gallery



Visit to Parambikulam TR with Mr. Ravi Singh, SG & CEO



The State Director and the WGNL Programme Team with SG & CEO



Visit to the Elephant Rehabilitation Centre run by Tamil Nadu FD near Top Slip

Photo Gallery



Smart Fishing Initiative (SFI) Meeting in Kochi



Visit along the Trivandrum Coast and interaction with communities by Louis and Ema



TRAFFIC Workshop on Strengthening Wildlife Law Enforcement organized in Parambikulam TR

1.2.6 WGNL Programme liaison with Kerala Forests & Wildlife Department

With regard to the WWF work in the Western Ghats Nilgiris Landscape, to appraise the top officers of the status of the various initiatives, to request for extension of permission to enter and work, to take their feedback, to sort out field level issues – it was decided that the WGNL Programme Team headed by Dr Sejal, Programme Director will meet up with the senior most officers of KFD under the leadership of Dr Corrie, PCCF & HoFF. A formal letter has been submitted in this regard and the timely follow-up is also being carried out.

Dr. Sejal Worah, Programme Director, WWF-India and Mr. Renjan Mathew Varghese, State Director met Mr. Om Prakash Kaler, IFS, APCCF, Biodiversity Cell, Kerala Forests & Wildlife Department at his office on 4th Sept, 2015 to discuss on finalizing and releasing the Nilgiri Tahr Report which is a compilation of the findings of a study carried out by WWF-India over a time span of 3 years covering all the habitats of Nilgiri Tahr in Kerala and Tamil Nadu.

1.2.7 Environment Education Strategy Meeting

Ms. Radhika Suri has recently taken charge as the Director – Environment Education in WWF-India. There is a lot of changes being brought in regarding the priority areas and approach of the organization with regard to EE. In this background, the State Director and Senior Education Officer attended the meeting on “Education’s Head Start Vision 2020” at New Delhi from 21st to 24th Feb 2016. Based on the many years of experience and available expertise, we have given the maximum inputs. Some of the new initiatives in EE are ‘Ek Prithvi’, One Planet Academy’, ‘Nature Trails’ etc.

Environment Education Programmes

2.1 EE Projects

2.1.1 Addressing Human-Animal Conflicts through Media Workshop

Kerala State Office conducted a two days media workshop on 'Addressing Human - Animal Conflicts' for media persons of Palakkad and Thrissur districts at Chimmony Wildlife Sanctuary on 29th and 30th September 2015. Thirty-five media persons participated in the workshop. The sessions were led by Dr.E.A. Jayson, Kerala Forests Research Institute, Dr.B.A. Daniel, Zoo Outreach Organisation and Sri. Krishna of Inometrics Technology System Pvt. Ltd., Sri. Renjan Mathew Varghese and Sri. Tiju Thomas, WWF-India. The participants also had morning and evening field trips through the forests of Chimmony Wildlife Sanctuary. The film Forgotten Tigers was screened during the evening session.

2.1.2 National Environment Awareness Campaign (NEAC)

Pettah – Pallimukku Bus Stop goes clean and green under the initiative taken by WWF-India as part of the National Environment Awareness Campaign of the Union Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change and locally co-ordinated by Centre for Environment and Development. The event was carried out in the most efficient and effective manner because of the unique partnership that was facilitated by WWF-India with the NCC Cadets and Nature Club Members of St. Joseph's Higher Secondary School, Pettah Janamaithri Police Station and the Pallimukku Janamaithri Auto Drivers Koottayma. Totally around 70 participants were there in the event including 50 school students, WWF Staff and volunteers, Policemen and Auto Drivers. The event started off at 8am with the cleanup and planting drive inaugurated by Assistant Commissioner of Police Sri. Jawahar Janardh in the presence of Sri. Renjan Mathew Varghese, State Director, WWF-India, Sri. Ajithkumar, Sri. Tajudheen, Sri. Jayakumar, Sub Inspectors of Police, Sri. Shaji Alexander, Co-ordinator, NCC Unit, St. Joseph's School and Sri. Suresh Kumar, Co-ordinator, Janamaithri Auto Drivers Koottayma. The whole area was cleared of litter and levelled properly. The back wall was cleared of all cinema posters, cleaned well and white washed. Pits were dug on the ground along the entire length of the Police Station Compound Wall and bamboo saplings planted. Long pots were purchased and flowering and ornamental plants put up. The Bus Stop Shed area was levelled and tiles paved. The loose concrete blocks lying around were cleaned and erected in an orderly manner as seating platforms. The general public and many patients going to Medical College and RCC will very much benefit from this initiative. SBT Pettah has agreed to give the necessary sponsorship to put 5 chairs in the bus stand. As part of the same initiative, WWF has erected awareness hoardings in 10 selected schools in the City with

Photo Gallery - Media Sensitisation Workshop on Addressing Human Animal Conflicts



State Director giving the opening talk



Boominathan, Co-ordinator, WGNL Programme



Tiju Thomas, Prog Officer, Community Engt.



Dr E.A.Jayson from KFRI



IT interventions by Inometrics Technology



B.A.Daniel conducting group activity

Photo Gallery – National Environment Awareness Campaign (NEAC)



Students with the Awareness Hoardings at Le'Cole Chempaka School



St. Mary's HSS

All Saints College



Chinmaya Vidyalaya

Good Shepherd School

Photo Gallery – NEAC Action Component - Cleaning & Greening of Pallimukku Bus Stop



Initial condition



Authorickshaw drivers cleaning the area



Sri. Jawahar Janardh, ACP planting bamboo



State Director addressing the gathering



The Volunteers Team



Final condition

slogans against littering, burning of leaf litter and plastic waste, promotion of soil and water conservation and protection of wetlands and water bodies.

2.1.3 Urja Kiran (Energy Conservation Awareness Campaign)

Urja Kiran, the Energy Conservation Awareness Campaign funded by Energy Management Centre, Govt. of Kerala in association with CED, Kerala was carried out in two districts covering five sites:

Ernakulam District

At Thrikkakara in Albertian Institute of Science & Technology (AISAT) - The programme was inaugurated by Smt. Jessy Peter, Municipal Chairperson of Kalamassery and she released the resource material kit including the Urja Kiran booklet, stickers and posters developed by WWF-India. Sri. Gopinathan Nair, Resource Person, EMC led a session on 'Energy Conservation'. Renjan Mathew Varghese, State Director, WWF-India led another session on 'Ecological Footprint & Sustainable Development' focusing on the energy consumption in different sectors of life. Sri. Sivakumar, Senior Education Officer, led an activity to assess one's Ecological Footprint and to realize their energy consumption and to make change in their lifestyle.

At Thripunithara - This was an event conducted for the general public. The event timing was scheduled taking into consideration the convenience of the public and the most suitable centrally located venue was also chosen. While inviting, even though many people showed interest and enthusiasm and we expected around 60 participants, finally during the event only 20 turned up. But the 20 were very genuinely interested and involved in this theme and there was very good discussions and deliberations. The programme was inaugurated by Smt. Chandrika Devi, Municipal Chairperson of Thripunithara Municipality. Smt. Radhika Varma Ward Councilor, Thripunithara Municipality felicitated the programme and Sri. Murukan Pareparambil, Programme Volunteer, WWF-India delivered the vote of thanks. Session on 'Energy Conservation' was led by Mr. Gopinathan Nair, Resource Person, EMC and Session on 'Ecological Footprint & Sustainable Development' was led by Mr. Renjan Mathew Varghese.

Palakkad

Initially we visited all the institutions and met the authorities and explained to them in detail on the new initiative and its relevance. Once they were convinced, they took up the organizing part with full enthusiasm either through their Nature Clubs or NSS Units.

Pattambi Govt. Sanskrit College - The programme on 17th February 2016 was inaugurated by Smt. C. Sangeetha, Vice-Chairperson, Pattambi Municipality in a function that was presided over by Prof. Anithakumari V.S., Principal of the College. The session on 'Ecological Footprint & Sustainable Development' was led by the State Director.

Thrithala Govt. Arts & Science College - The programme on 18th February was inaugurated by Sri.M.K.Pradeep, Vice President of Thrithala Block Panchayat in a function that was presided over by Prof. Dr.K.N. Vijayakumari, Principal of the College. Smt. Siji M.U., Environment Club Co-ordinator welcomed the guests and participants. Session on Energy Conservation was led by Sri. P. Baiju, Program Officer, CED. The session on 'Ecological Footprint & Sustainable Development' was led by the State Director.

Shornur Govt. Polytechnic & IPT - The programme on 20th February was inaugurated by Capt. Dhinachandran C., Principal of the Institute. Mr. Renjan introduced the programme. Suresh G., NSS Co-ordinator welcomed the guests and participants. Session on Energy Conservation was led by Sri. Sivankutty, Resource Person, EMC. The session on 'Ecological Footprint & Sustainable Development' was led by Mr. Renjan.

2.1.4 Wild Wisdom Quiz 2015

Wild Wisdom Quiz is the only national wildlife quiz in the country led by WWF-India and supported by many others like CBSE, Discovery Kids etc. Necessary discussions were conducted with the Director, Dept. of Museum and Zoos to get the Museum Directorate Auditorium free of cost and they have agreed to provide it. Mails were sent to 361 schools of Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam, Kottayam and Ernakulam. State Office has taken adequate measures for the follow up for maximum participation in the upcoming Wild Wisdom Quiz. A dedicated Volunteer has been assigned to this work and along with him Ms. Pushpa, Accounts & Administration Officer and A.K. Sivakumar, Senior Education Officer visited schools in Thiruvananthapuram and Kollam districts for face to face interaction and follow-up. Necessary follow up through phone and emails were also being carried out. The State Director has been part of the panel for the vetting of questions. Question papers for conducting the school level quiz were sent to all approved schools and necessary follow up also were done to ensure they had received the same.

The City-level Competition of the 8th edition of 'Wild Wisdom Quiz' held in Thiruvananthapuram on 12th September 2015 at the Museum Auditorium conducted by WWF-India in association with the Dept. of Museums & Zoos with the support of Ministry of Earth Sciences, Govt. of India witnessed tremendous participation and tough

Photo Gallery



Urja Kiran – Inaugural Session



Urja Kiran – Technical Sessions



Campaign hoardings with energy conservation messages on the campus

Photo Gallery - Urja Kiran - Energy Conservation Awareness Campaign

Thripunithara, Ernakulam District



Inaugural Address



Poster Release



Vote of thanks by Vinod Malayilethu



View of the Participants



Session by State Director



Session by Er. Gopinathan Nair

Photo Gallery - Urja Kiran - Energy Conservation Awareness Campaign

Shoranur, Palakkad District



Inaugural Address



Poster Release



View of the Participants



Session on Ecological Footprint



Session by EMC representative



Feedback by students

Photo Gallery - Urja Kiran - Energy Conservation Awareness Campaign

Thrithala, Palakkad District



Inaugural Session



Poster Release



Introduction by State Director



Inaugural Address



Classes on Ecological Footprint and Energy Conservation in Daily Life



Photo Gallery - Urja Kiran - Energy Conservation Awareness Campaign

Pattambi, Palakkad District



Inaugural Session



Poster Release



Session on Ecological Footprint



A view of the Participants



Feedback from the participants and concluding session



Wild Wisdom Quiz City Level at Thiruvananthapuram



Introduction to Wild Wisdom Quiz



Participants



Prof. E.Kunhikrishnan mastering the Junior and Middle level quizzes



Winners of Junior and Middle level with Quiz Master, State Director and Senior Education Officer

Photo Gallery



Great Backyard Bird Count at All Saints College led by Ms. Neha Waikar, Volunteer & Expert Birder



Paaristhithikam at Shanghumugham Beach

Team from TCS doing the Beach Cleanup



Litter bin installed at Shanghumugham

Beautification through art work on wall

competition from schools across the State. In the Junior level conducted from 8.00-11.00am, 21 schools participated, and in the Middle level conducted from 12.00noon to 3.00pm, 32 teams participated. Dr. E. Kunhikrishnan, Professor in Zoology (retd) from University College, an eminent environmentalist and an established quizzer led the competitions. In the Junior level competition Mas. Abhishek P. and Kum. Ishitha Praveen of Bhavan's Vidyamandir, Elamakkara, Kochi, Kum. Devika S. Kumar and Mas. Andrew John Cardoz of Carmel International School, Alappuzha and Mas. Ananthan R. and Abel George Jacob of Good Shepherd School, Thiruvananthapuram secured the first, second and third positions respectively. In the Middle level competition Kum. Gowri G. Gokul and Mas. Sreeram Madhavan of Bhavan's Vidyamandir, Thrissur, Mas. Gopu Girish and Joshua John Darvy of Vimala Public School, Thodupuzha and Mas. Athul Suresh and Mas. Gautham Krishna A. of Loyola School, Thiruvananthapuram secured the first, second and third positions respectively.

With few more weeks left for the launch of the online quiz for the higher classes, the State Director and the Senior Education Officer has been instrumental in preparing and providing questions for the same to EE Division.

2.1.5 Great Backyard Bird Count/ Campus Bird Count

Kerala State Office took part in the GBBC by partnering in the Campus Bird Count on 12th February in All Saints College, Thiruvananthapuram. Ms.Neha Waikar, one of our active Volunteer and an Expert Birder led the team of students there and listed 22 species of birds from the campus. It was a training session for the students also to observe birds and identify them.

2.1.6 Paaristhithikam 2015-16 (State Environment Awareness Campaign)

WWF-India, Helping Hands Organisation (H2O) and Kerala My Own Country (KMOC) jointly organised Paaristhithikam 2015-16 – the State Environment Awareness Campaign of Dept. of Environment and Climate Change, Govt. of Kerala with the Beach Clean-up Campaign in Shanghumugham Beach, Thiruvananthapuram. The programme included installation of six litter-bins, exclusively designed and fabricated by WWF-India, along the beach road for tourists to responsibly dispose the litter generated from ice-creams, toys and snacks sold in the area. The students of Fine Arts College, Thiruvananthapuram came up voluntarily to do art work along the outer wall of the Indoor Stadium in Shanghumugham. Beach Clean-up was carried out by college students and volunteers along with the cleaning staff of Thiruvananthapuram Corporation and DTPC. Volunteers from TCS were also present in the event and they sponsored a whole new set of cleaning

equipment to the cleaning staff. They are now expected to maintain this on the long run so that Shanghumugham Beach and surrounding areas remain clean and tidy.

2.2 Nature Clubs

2.2.1 Brainstorming on Nature Clubs of India (NCI)

An internal brainstorming session was organized in the office to take the feedback from all the staff on the past trends in NCI and also suggestions on the way forward. The session was very dynamic with contribution from all staff and the learning has been compiled for further action.

1.2.2 Nature Club Visit

Senior Education Officer visited SN College Kollam on 9th July in connection with the discussion on the possible Nature Club activities and the Teachers from Fatima Matha National College also attended the discussion to chart out their annual activity plans. The tentative plan was finalized and circulated among the other college level Nature Clubs of Kollam.

2.2.3 Nature Clubs at Management level

Necessary discussions were carried out with Mr. Jinesh, Amrita Viswa Vidyapeetam based on their keen interest to initiate a Nature Club among their institutions and affiliate it with WWF-India NCI network. The application form, brochure and details of possible joint projects, programmes and initiatives were sent.

2.2.4 Coastal Cleanup at Varkala Beach

On 15th August, the Nature Club Members of MGM School, Varkala did a great job showing their commitment towards Mother Earth and society by cleaning up the entire coast of Papanasam Beach at Varkala soiled with banana leaves, flowers, plastic and other pooja materials left over by thousands of people on the previous day, the Karkkidaka Vavu. They were advised to collect the waste in a segregated manner to analyze the major pollutants and make a strategy if needed for coming years.

2.3 Commemoration of Environmentally Important Days

2.3.1 Earth Day 2015

Kerala State Office observed Earth Day 2015 by distributing a set of two CFLs to 130 families of Pambukala Harijan Colony near Poovar at Thiruvananthapuram. The programme was in association with AMAS Neyyatinkara and was inaugurated by Smt.L.Santhi Prameela, Asst. Education Officer, Neyyatinkara and a poet in the presence

Photo Gallery



Varkala Beach Cleanup by NC Members



World Migratory Bird Day (WMBD)



WMBD – Participants in the field bird watching



Intl. Day for Biological Diversity



IBD - Exhibition



International Tiger Day Rally

of Sri. Anil V. Salam, Member, Block Panchayat and Sri. Renjan Mathew Varghese, State Director.

2.3.2 World Migratory Bird Day 2015

The World Migratory Bird Day 2015 on 9th and 10th May 2015 was organised jointly by WWF-India and the Dept. of Zoology, NSS College, Pandalam and supported by the Kerala State Biodiversity Board. It was inaugurated by Dr.D.Gopimohan, Principal of the College. The other dignitaries in the inaugural function included Dr.V.Radhakrishnan, Head, Department of Zoology, Dr.M.G.Sanalkumar and P. Vinod of the Department, Mr.A.K.Sivakumar, Senior Education Officer, WWF-India and Dr.K.N.P. Kurup representing the State Biodiversity Board. A set of 6 posters on 'Wetlands and Migratory Birds' was released in the function. The sessions on 'Bird Migration & Migratory Birds' and 'Bird Watching' were led by Mr. A.K.Sivakumar and Mr.C.Harikumar of WWF-India. An interactive quiz programme and screening of the documentary on 'Birds of Kerala' also was held post lunch on the first day. On the second day the participants were taken to Karingalichal Wetland for birding and they observed 40 species including one migratory.

2.3.3 International Day for Biological Diversity 2015

Kerala State Office organized IBD 2015 at Lord Krishna Public School, Polachira, Kollam in association with the Social Forestry Extension Unit, Kollam and Social Forestry Division of Kerala Forests & Wildlife Department on 21st and 22nd May 2015. The first day was scheduled for painting, poster and quiz competitions for various levels and an 'Exhibition on Biodiversity'. On the second day, the awareness programmes included sessions on 'Biodiversity for Sustainable Development', 'Biodiversity in daily life' and 'Biodiversity of the local area'.

2.3.4 World Environment Day 2015

'Neeruravakalude Nerarivukalthedi (Pond protection)' in and around Neyyattinkara Municipality - a joint initiative of WWF-India Kerala State Office, Academy for Mountaineering and Adventure Sports (AMAS-Kerala), Social Forestry Division of Kerala Forests & Wildlife Department, Neyyattinkara Municipality and National Service Scheme (NSS-Higher Secondary) is a project launched as part of WED 2015.

The second parallel programme was the inauguration of the WED Tree Planting Programme on 5th June 2015 at the Regional Animal Husbandry Centre, Kottiyam, Kollam. The event was inaugurated by Sri.K.N.Balagopal MP and presided over by Sri.

S.Jayamohan, District Panchayat President. All the invited VIPs planted different kinds of trees in the selected sites of the RAHC Campus.

WED 2015 was observed by WWF-India Kerala State Office on the theme of 'Sustainable Lifestyles' in association with other partners with various relevant programmes:

- The first programme was an exhibition on Nature & Environment that was organized at Kollam from 3rd to 5th June in association with the Social Forestry Division, Kollam of the Kerala Forests & Wildlife Department.
- The second programme was a 'Seminar on Sacred Groves' conducted in association with the Social Forestry Division, Kollam on 4th June at the Seminar Hall of Public Library, Kollam. The sessions were led by Dr.N.C.Induchoodan, Rtd. Divisional Forest Officer, Kerala Forests & Wildlife Department and Dr.E.Kunjikrishnan, Rtd. Associate Professor, Dept. of Zoology, University College, Thiruvananthapuram.
- The third event on WED was organized on 5 June itself in the afternoon at 2pm at St. Shanthal School, Malamukal, Thiruvananthapuram. The students of the senior classes were gathered in the assembly auditorium for the event. Mr. Renjan Mathew Varghese, State Director, WWF-India was the Chief Guest in the event and he interacted with the students and effectively conveyed the message on the theme of WED 2015.
- An awareness programme and exhibition, was organized at Janardhanapuram Higher Secondary School, Ottasekharamangalam on 12 June, 2015. In the awareness programme around 80 selected students attended the technical sessions on 'Sustainable Development and Ecological Footprint' led by Mr. Renjan Mathew Varghese and 'Seven billion dreams, One Planet, Consume with care' by Mr. A.K. Sivakumar, Senior Education Officer, WWF-India.

2.3.5 World Ocean Day 2015

The World Ocean Day was observed with Beach Clean-up at Shanghumugham followed by an awareness programme. The cleanup drive was a collective effort by around 40 volunteers from WWF-India, All Saints College, Dept. of Aquatic Biology & Fisheries, University of Kerala and Friends of Marine life. Though it was raining heavily, the participants collected around 10 big bags of litter in a segregated manner. The bags were weighed for data collection and transferred to the Corporation Officials for proper disposal. The awareness programme in connection with the day was held at St.Roch's

Photo Gallery



**World Environment Day 2015
Neeruravakalude nerarivukal thedi**



**World Environment Day 2015
Neeruravakalude nerarivukal thedi**



**World Environment Day 2015
Neeruravakalude nerarivukal thedi**



**World Environment Day 2015
Tree plantation at Kollam**



**World Environment Day 2015
Photo - Panel Exhibition**



**World Environment Day 2015
Vanavismayam**

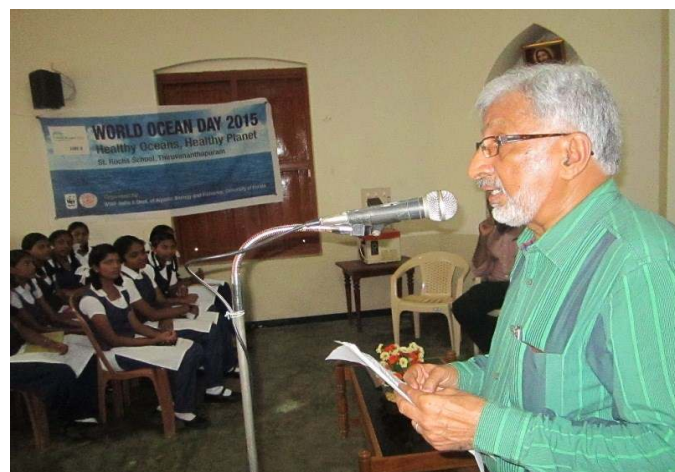
Photo Gallery - World Ocean Day 2015



Beach Cleanup by Volunteers



Inaugural session by Dr. Muhammad Basheer



Keynote Address by Dr. Oommen V Oommen



Felicitation by Sri. Renjan Mathew Varghese



Session by Dr. A. Bijukumar

High School. Around 125 School Students along with WWF Volunteers attended the programme.

2.3.6 International Tiger Day 2015

Kerala State Office observed the International Tiger Day at Devaswam Board College, Sasthamkotta at Kollam in association with Social Forestry Extension Unit, Kollam. Sri.I Siddique, Dy. Conservator of Forests inaugurated the observance. The Tiger Day Rally was flagged off jointly by Sri.Siddique and Dr.Letheesh, Principal of the College. The Tiger Day Talk and Quiz was led by Sri. A.K.Sivakumar, Senior Education Officer. The State Director was interviewed by Akashavani for the ITD 2015. An article titled 'Rise in number of Tigers is a matter of pride for Kerala' has been prepared and sent to Kerala Calling, the official magazine of Kerala Government.

2.3.7 World Elephant Day 2015

Kerala State Office prepared an 'Elephant Quiz' and this was shared with all our affiliated and associated schools and colleges asking them to do organize quiz and awareness programmes on their own. The same was shared with Director, Environment Education also for wider reach.

2.3.8 Earth Overshoot Day 2015

The press release and other details available on EOD 2015 from the WWF-India Secretariat were shared with the local media friends specially requesting them to give maximum publicity so that more and more people are made aware on Our Ecological Footprint and the need to reduce it.

2.3.9 International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer 2015

The Ozone Day was observed with a variety of competitions like poster designing, painting, pencil drawing and Ozone Quiz for college and school students on the first day followed by an awareness workshop on September 16 organised at Mar Thoma College, Tiruvalla by WWF-India in association with the College with the support of Dept. of Environment & Climate Change, Govt. of Kerala. The awareness programme was inaugurated by Dr.T.K.Mathew, MG University Senate Member and Principal of Titus II Teachers College, Tiruvalla in a function that was presided over by Dr. Jacob K., Principal, Mar Thoma College. Sri. Renjan Mathew Varghese, State Director explained the background of observation of Ozone Day globally, nationally and locally and its relevance, especially among the youth. A set of 5 posters on the theme of 'Protection of Ozone Layer' was also released in the inaugural session and distributed among the participants. Dr. Thomas Mathew, HOD, Chemistry and Prof. Sonia Anna Zachariah, Asst. Professor, Dept. of Botany felicitated the workshop. Dr. Jacob, Asst. Professor, Dept.

of Botany and Mr. A.K.Sivakumar, Senior Education Officer, WWF-India also spoke on the occasion. The first technical session 'Ozone Story' was led by Mr. Sivakumar in which the facts, figures and the milestones in the Preservation of the Ozone Layer were discussed. The second session on the '2030 UN Agenda for Sustainable Development' was led by Mr. Renjan. During the valedictory session, Dr. Elizabeth T. Mangatt, HOD of Botany addressed the participants and gave away the awards for the winners of the various competitions and also distributed the participation certificates.

2.3.10 Wildlife Week 2015

Wildlife Week 2015 was observed by Kerala State Office with the following programmes:

Nilgiri Tahr Report Release and handing over of Elephant Tracking Radio Collar

As part of the State level inauguration of Wildlife Week 2015 organised by Kerala Forests and Wildlife Department, Govt. of Kerala at the Kottoor Elephant Rehabilitation Centre on 1 October 2015, the WWF-India 3 year study report on Nilgiri Tahrs titled 'Status and Distribution of The Nilgiri Tahr in the Western Ghats, India' was released by Shri. Thiruvanchoor Radhakrishnan, Hon'ble Minister for Forests and Environment. The report was formally handed over to the Minister by Dr. Dipankar Ghose, Director, Species and Landscapes, WWF-India and after release the report was received from the Minister by Shri. G. Harikumar IFS, PCCF (Wildlife) & Chief Wildlife Warden. The elephant tracking radio collar procured from Africa to study human-elephant conflicts in Wayanad was also handed over to KFD. Mr. Mohanraj and the State Director also attended the function.

Inauguration of Wildlife Week Celebrations of Neyyattinkara Municipality

The State Director was invited to give the Lead Talk as part of the inauguration of the week long programmes as part of observing Wildlife Week on 2nd October in Neyyattinkara Municipality. The function was organized at the Athiyannoor School. The Chief Guest of the function was Shri. Jayakumar, Chairman, Neyyattinkara Municipality. Around 100 students attended the function. A wildlife and biodiversity oriented exhibition was also arranged using the WWF exhibition set.

Wildlife Quiz

A wildlife quiz was conducted by Senior Education Officer at Kanakakkunnu Palace, Thiruvananthapuram for Higher Secondary School students organized by Kerala Forests & Wildlife Department as part of the inaugural function of State level Wildlife Week Programmes. Twenty-two school teams participated in the quiz.

International Day for the Protection of the Ozone Layer 2015



Inaugural session and Ozone Day poster release



Technical sessions by A.K. Sivakumar and Renjan Mathew Varghese



Poster & Painting Competitions



Award Distribution

Wildlife Orientation Camp for students in Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuary, Kollam



Sessions by Sri.A.Shanavas, Wildlife Warden and Sri.S.Radhakrishnan, Dy. Director (Wildlife Education)



Participants after the cleanup drive and during the Wildlife Week Rally



Participants during the field trip and taking the Wildlife Week Pledge

Wildlife Orientation Camp at Kottoor Elephant Rehabilitation Centre

Kerala State Office jointly with Thiruvananthapuram Wildlife Division of Kerala Forests & Wildlife Department conducted a two days Wildlife Orientation Camp at Kottoor ERC on 1st and 2nd October following the State level Wildlife Week Programme inauguration. Forty-two higher secondary students and 3 Teachers participated in the camp in which sessions on wildlife, field trips, bird watching, movie screening, quiz and a cleanup drive were incorporated.

Orientation Camp for students in Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuary, Kollam

A two days Orientation Camp with the objective of encouraging students and youth to know more about wildlife and thereby protecting them was organized at Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuary, Kollam on 5th and 6th October jointly by Kerala State Office, Shendurney WLS and SN College, Kollam. Forty students and five staff members of the college, Senior Education Officer, Wildlife Warden, Asst. Wildlife Warden and Dy. Director (Wildlife Education) participated in the gathering. It was inaugurated by Sri.A.Shanavas, Wildlife Warden. The sessions were led by A.K. Sivakumar, Senior Education Officer, WWF-India, Sri.K.Radhakrishnan, Dy. Director (Wildlife Education) and Ms. Sudha, Ecologist of the Wildlife Sanctuary. Two field trips were conducted during the gathering in which the participants enjoyed the heavy rain and also encountered a herd of elephants, making the event very thrilling. A cleanup drive and a wildlife week rally to sensitize the public living around the Wildlife Sanctuary was also conducted. During the valedictory session, the participants took the wildlife protection pledge too.

Awareness Programme and Exhibition at St. Gregorios College, Kottarakkara

A single day Exhibition and Awareness Programme was conducted at St. Gregorios College, Kottarakkara on 7th October 2015. Following the formal inauguration, State Director led a session on Human – Wildlife Conflict and Senior Education Officer led an interactive quiz programme. The movie ‘Forgotten Tigers’ was also screened. The exhibition was viewed by the students of nearby schools too.

2.3.11 Salim Ali Day 2015

The event including Competitions & Awareness Programme as part of the day was organized with the support of the Social Forestry Division on 12th November at Catholice College, Pathanamthitta. The workshop was inaugurated by the Principal of Catholice College. The technical sessions were led by Mr. Sivakumar, Senior Education Officer and Mr. Harikumar, Volunteer and Resource Person of WWF-India. Around 120 students attended the awareness programmes. Inter school quiz and poster designing

competitions were arranged for school students in the college auditorium on 11th November.

2.3.12 World Wetlands Day 2016

Kerala State Office observed World Wetlands Day 2016 at NSS College, Kumarakom on 9th February in association with the College, Tourism Club and Kerala State Council for Science, Technology & Environment. The programme was inaugurated by Sri. Renjan Mathew Varghese, State Director, WWF-India in a session chaired by Dr.G.Santhosh, Principal of the College. A set of posters on wetlands was released in this session. Following the inaugural session, the technical session on 'Wetlands – issues and concerns with local case studies' was presented by Sri. Renjan Mathew Varghese. Documentary screening of 'Home – Our Garden of Eden' was also done in the forenoon session. The afternoon session was a quiz competition exclusively on wetlands mastered by Sri. A.K.Sivakumar, Senior Education Officer. The quiz was not just questions and answers, but was a highly interactive learning process on wetlands. Another session on 'Responsible Tourism in Kadalundi Community Reserve' was led by Sri. Abin, Tourism Academician, School of Tourism Studies, MG University, Kottayam. An exhibition on biodiversity, endemic and endangered species also was conducted parallel to these sessions which was appreciated very much by the students.

2.3.13 Earth Hour 2016

Earth Hour 2016 was observed with the support of Dept. of Environment and Climate Change (DoECC), Govt. of Kerala, Energy Management Centre (EMC), Govt. of Kerala, Kerala State Electricity Board Limited (KSEBL), Govt. of Kerala and NIMS Heart Foundation and NI Group of Institutions with the partnership of Dept. of Museum & Zoos, Govt. of Kerala, Indus Cycling Embassy (ICE), Kerala Sasthra Sahithya Parishad (KSSP), and Junior Chamber International (JCI). This time, we had given much importance for publicity and outreach through letters, Social media, Stickers and Print and Visual Media. Earth Hour 2016 was organized on the theme of 'Go Solar' mainly Rooftop Solar. Many promotional initiatives like hoardings, stickers, public campaigns, door to door campaigns, press meet etc. were conducted as part of this event.

In order to reach out to the students and youth of the two major satellite towns of Thiruvananthapuram i.e. Neyyattinkara and Nedumangad, we tied up with GEMS Magic Academy run by Magician Indra Ajith to conduct magic show on the theme of energy conservation. The Cyclathon by Indus Cycling Embassy with 35 cyclists as participants and the Walkathon with the early morning walkers at Museum Zoo premises was another promo event.

World Wetlands Day 2016 at SN College, Kumarakam



Inauguration and poster release



Class on Wetland Ecosystem



Quiz on Wetlands



Feedback from students



Session on Nature Tourism in Wetlands



Exhibition

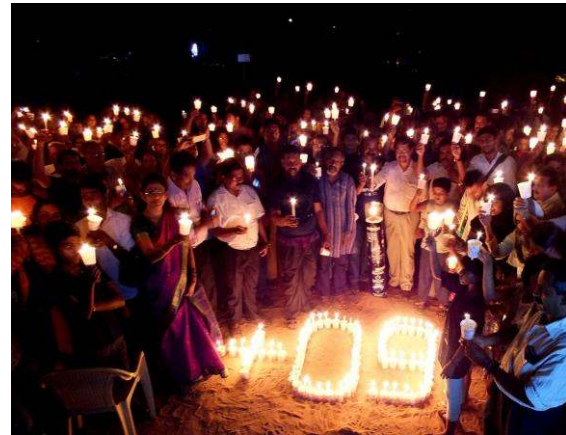
Photo Gallery



Wildlife Week Exhibition at St. Gregorios College and Wildlife Quiz at Kanakakunnu



Earth Hour Awareness Hoardings and Cycle Rally with Indus Cycling Embassy at Manaveeyam



Earth Hour Evening Main Event at Museum & Zoo Compound

For the Earth Hour evening major function, the Radio Stand in the Museum & Zoo Compound was selected as the venue. All our staff, their families and volunteers got together at the venue. The first step was to arrange, pour oil, put wick and start lighting “Manchirathu/ Idinjil” in and around the area to make the premises more beautiful as per the occasion and to attract the public to the site. Tholpava Koothu, a traditional art form performed using oil lamps started by around 7pm which attracted the public to the venue. Within this one hour performance from 7.00 to 8.00pm, all necessary arrangements for the switch off and the candle light vigil were made. The cultural performance was concluded by 8.00pm. Mr. Renjan Mathew Varghese, State Director introduced Earth Hour 2016 and the organizing partners in Kerala and invited the guests. Dr. Biju Prabhakar IAS, Thiruvananthapuram District Collector, Mr. Dhareshan Unnithan, Director, Energy Management Centre, Mr.K.Gangadharan, Director, Museum and Zoos were the guests for the event. The guests addressed the gathering and called for conserving energy for a sustainable tomorrow. By 8.30pm, the lights towards the Radio Stand were switched off and the District Collector lighted the EH 2016 main candle and switched on the 60+ Earth Hour logo fabricated using LED strip. From the EH 2016 main candle, the guests moved down to lighting the candles arranged on the ground in cups in the form of 60+ the Earth Hour logo and the guests were joined by the general public. The volunteers distributed individual candles and cups to all the people around and everyone joined in the candle light vigil. People, as individuals, as teams of friends and colleagues, as families enjoyed the candle light vigil by taking selfies and photographs with the guests. The District Collector and the State Director had an interactive session with a group of students who had come from Malappuram as part of the ‘Walk with the Scholar’ programme.

The major land marks switched off were Raj Bhavan and Museum & Zoo Compound. EH 2016 was observed independently by few apartment complexes and Residents Associations also. The Ambrosia Chain of Bakeries promoted Earth Hour by providing our stickers along with their bills and also observed Earth Hour on 19th evening with candle light dinner. The Chair for Gandhian Studies and Research, University of Calicut distributed leaflets to observe Earth Hour within their network. Similarly, many such institutions, associations, households and individuals have joined in Earth Hour 2016 to make it a real success and a people’s movement.

2.4 Friday Forum

Friday Forum is an open platform where school students from selected few schools in the Capital City come together to listen to an expert talk on a current and relevant

environment topic and then discuss and deliberate on the topic with questions and clarifications and look at possible interventions. This is organized in association with the Department of Museum & Zoos, Govt. of Kerala and is usually organized in the Museum Auditorium located on the first floor of the Directorate of Museum & Zoos.

August 2015 - The first Friday Forum of the year was held on 7th August on the theme 'Monsoon of Kerala' at the regular venue, i.e. Museum Auditorium. Around 70 students from 3 schools attended the Friday Forum, that was led by Dr. Subhash Chandra Bose, Director of CCDU, Water Resources Department.

September 2015 – The Forum of the month was held on 11th on the theme “Rivers of Kerala” and the session was led by Sri. Renjan Mathew Varghese, State Director and was attended by around 100 students from different schools of the City.

November 2015 - The FF was organized on the theme 'Birds of Kerala and Bird Watching'. Mr. C. Harikumar, Volunteer of WWF-India and Expert Birder was the resource person of the programme. Around 60 students from three schools in Thiruvananthapuram City attended the half-day programme. There was very good interaction from the participants.

January 2016 – The Forum of the month was held on 15th January. Sri. A.K.Sivakumar, Senior Education Officer led the session on “Safe Food” with a multimedia presentation and interaction. Around 100 students from 4 schools participated.

2.5 Sunday Bird Walk

This is a once in a month outdoor activity in forest or wetland areas or other suitable birding areas to facilitate regular interaction among the birders.

April 2015 - A team of 17 birders led by Sri. A.K.Sivakumar, Senior Education Officer went for the Sunday Bird Walk on 26th April at Chathancode, within Peppara Wildlife Sanctuary. Fifty-two species of birds were observed including the endemic Malabar Trogon, Crimson backed Sunbird, Malabar Whistling Thrush, Malabar Grey Hornbill, Nilgiri Flowerpecker and White-bellied Blue Flycatcher.

July 2015 - The monthly birding programme was held on 19th July 2015 covering Neendakara - Shakthikulangara Fishing Harbours and Pallikkodi, part of Ashtamudi Lake. Sixteen birdwatchers were part of the Sunday Bird Walk that listed 35 species of birds. The Heronry Count at Kollam also was conducted along with it.

September 2015 - The monthly birding programme was held in and around the Veli Estuary on 20th September with the participation of 16 birders. Forty-three species of birds

Photo Gallery – Friday Forum



Dr. Subhash Chandra Bose, Director – CCDU addressing the participants



View of the participants



The State Director leading a Friday Forum



Mr. C. Harikumar leads the FF on Birding



The Senior Education Officer leading a session

Photo Gallery – Sunday Bird Walk



were recorded in the bird walk including migratory species like Common Sandpiper, Lesser sand Plover and Whiskered Tern.

March 2016 - The monthly birding was conducted at Thenmala in Shendurney WLS and surrounding areas on 6th March 2016 with the participation of 13 birders. The team was led by Sri. Jaichand Johnson and they spotted around 30 species of birds from the area including endemic Malabar Trogon, Malabar Grey Hornbill etc.

2.6 Nature Education Camps

2.6.1 Wildlife Orientation Camp at Wayanad WLS

Kerala State Office conducted a three day Wildlife Orientation Camp at Wayanad WLS from 31st July to 2nd Aug 2015. The camp was attended by 9 nature enthusiasts accompanied by the Senior Education Officer and a Volunteer. The team conducted nature watch, trekking, wildlife safari and discussions during the camp hours. They sighted Elephants, Sambar Deers, Spotter Deers, Barking Deers, Gaurs, Malabar Giant Squirrels, Bonnet macaques, Hanuman Langurs and so many birds. The camp was highly interesting for the participants as shared during the feedback session.

2.6.2 Nature Orientation Trip to Chathancode, Peppara Wildlife Sanctuary

A Nature Orientation Trip was conducted on 18th October 2015 to the Chathancode forests falling under Peppara WLS exclusively for 30 students from IIITM-K, Thiruvananthapuram. They had very good interaction with the Kani Tribe of the location. They could also see and enjoy different types of forests and few wild elephants and experience the heavy rain, waterfall, and the cold waters of the stream.

2.6.3 Wildlife Camp at Kabini

A Nature Education Camp was organized for wildlife enthusiasts at Kabini from 26th to 29th November. The main objective of the camp was to get some good Tiger and Leopard sightings and capture them on camera. The camp was led by the Senior Education Officer and Mr. Murukan Pareparambil, Volunteer of WWF-India with 8 participants.

2.6.4 Nature Education Camp at Periyar TR for M.Sc Students from TERI University

Eight M.Sc Environment Management Students from TERI University accompanied by their Professor Dr. Sudipto Chatterjee along with Mr. Renjan Mathew Varghese, State Director and Mr. Murukan, Volunteer visited Periyar TR from 9-12 December as part of the four days Nature Education Camp arranged by WWF-India on their request. The campers arrived at Kottayam Railway Station by 9th afternoon. A Tempo Traveller was arranged to take them to Kumily. Accommodation was arranged at Bamboo Groves under the Kerala Forests and Wildlife Department. On the evening of the first day, the

opening session was led by Sri. Joseph Karoor, Deputy Director (Retd.), Wildlife Education, Kerala Forests and Wildlife Department and long term good friend and supporter of WWF-India.

The next day morning, a trekking was arranged accompanied by a EDC guide cum field expert. The rich biodiversity, including flora and fauna was explained to the students. The campers experienced severe attack by leeches but the leech proof socks provided adequate protection against the attack. Post lunch, the team visited the adjacent tribal village Manakudi and interacted with the local people and EDC members. Sri. Ramesh Babu, Ecologist working with Periyar Foundation led the evening session.

The next day morning, a vehicle safari was arranged to Gavi. In the afternoon, the campers were divided into 4 groups of two each and they carried out a socio-economic survey among the various stakeholders of Periyar and Kumily. The evening session was led by Sri. Mani Sudarsanan, Range Officer, Eco-Development. After the technical session, the students got the opportunity to interact with Mr. John, Additional Field Director, PTR. The campers also took active participation in a role play game on the theme of 'Human Animal Conflicts'.

On the last day, boating was arranged in the morning. After the boating, the campers completed their evaluation and feedback of the 4 days programme and then travelled back to the base, i.e. Kottayam Railway Station.

2.7 Classes and Lectures Delivered

2.7.1 National Seminar on Conservation for Livelihoods

The Kerala Forests and Wildlife Department conducted the mega event titled Kanana Sangamam in the Kanakakunnu Palace compound. Mr. Renjan Mathew Varghese, State Director, Mr. Tiju Thomas, Programme Officer, SWGL Programme and Mr. Visanth, Project Officer, Kerala State Office attended the seminar as part of the event and presented our work and also actively participated in the discussions and deliberations and also attended the two days consecutive brainstorming and discussions on Community Forest Rights and Participatory Forest Management.

2.7.2 Session on Wildlife

A.K.Sivakumar, Senior Education Officer led a half-day session for kids, participants of the Summer Camp organized by Koliyacode Consumer Cooperative Society, Thiruvananthapuram on 28th April 2015 covering the various aspects of wildlife. Around 60 students from different classes attended the session. The session was a great eye

Photo Gallery – Nature Education Camps



PHOTO GALLERY



Introduction Session by
Mr. Joseph Karoor



Field Trekking



Visit to Tribal Village Manakkudi



Session by Dr. Ramesh Babu, Ecologist,
Periyar Foundation



The team on the way to Gavi



Interaction with Mr. John, AFD

PHOTO GALLERY



Team planning



Role play game



Boating in Periyar Lake



The team after boating



Informal interactions



Visit to the Interpretation Centre

opener to the participants and they were able to clear many misconceptions about wildlife during the interaction time.

2.7.3 Session on Application of GIS in NRM at Thrissur Govt. Engg. College

The State Director was invited by the Kerala GIS Community to deliver a lead talk on 'Fundamentals of GIS and its various applications' on 20th November at Govt. Engineering College, Thrissur. Around 120 participants were there including students of B.Arch and B.Tech and their faculties.

2.7.4 Class for Refresher Course in Environmental Science at UGC HRDC, UoK

The State Director was invited to take sessions in Refresher Course organized by UGC Human Resource Development Centre under University of Kerala at Karyavattam Campus on 7th Jan, 2016. The three hours session was divided into two slots. The first session was on 'Ecological Footprint and Sustainable Development' and the second session was on 'Mitigating Human – Animal Conflicts'

2.7.5 Invited talk at Thrissur Engineering College

The State Director was invited by Thrissur Govt. Engineering College to give a lead talk on 'Application of GIS and Remote Sensing in Natural Resource Management' in the week long Faculty Improvement Programme initiated on 15th February, 2016. The talk was delivered with case studies and examples of our ongoing project on 'Laterite Mining and its Environmental Impacts in Kerala'.

2.7.6 Orientation for the students of KUFOS

The authorities and students of Kerala University of Fisheries and Ocean Studies (KUFOS) based in Panangad, Kochi requested us for an orientation session on concerns with regard to the marine and coastal ecosystem and also WWF-India's work in nature conservation and environment protection including the marine and coastal sector. The programme was titled 'Defending the Blue'. Dr. V. Madhusoodhana Kurup, Vice-Chancellor, KUFOS inaugurated the programme. The State Director delivered the first talk on WWF's projects, programmes and initiatives internationally, nationally and locally. Mr. Vinod M., Senior Co-ordinator, Marine Programme gave the talk on WWF-India's initiatives on addressing the marine and coastal sector including our work on MSC Certification of Fisheries, Trade of Gastropod Shells, Marine Turtles etc. A small exhibition was also arranged at the venue in this connection.

2.7.7 Orientation Class for NSS Camp Participants at Ooroottukala

The State Director was invited to address the student participants of the NSS Camp organized at Ooroottukala near Neyyattinkara. Around 80 students attended the session

and there was very good discussions and deliberations. On the same occasion, the State Director launched a plantation drive of Curry Leaf saplings targeting the local households so that the poison laden curry leaves can be avoided in our platter in future.

Photo Gallery



Kanana Sangamam – Forest Meet



Class at Thrissur Govt. Engg College



Orientation Programme for the students at KUFOS, Kochi



Orientation Programme for NSS Camp Participants at Ooroottukala

Networking

We have a wide network established in the State over the years covering individuals, institutions, Government Departments, R&D institutions, NGOs, Schools and Colleges

3.1 Volunteer Engagement Programme (VEP)

Kerala State Office had initiated the VEP in January itself. The list of more than 40 regular volunteers with their affiliation and full contact details have been shared with WWF-India Secretariat for them to push out the invitation letters. The projects are regularly being uploaded on the VEP webpage. The list of volunteers registering for each event is followed-up through phone and mail. One of our earlier volunteers Mr. Jeffin John helped us to get in touch with our volunteers and to get them registered under the Volunteer Engagement Hub. For those volunteers directly engaging with us at the ground level, intimation is sent to them through both SMS and mail and telephonic follow-up carried out through phone to ensure that they register themselves on the site as volunteers and they also take interest in future programme. Ms. Bini Sibi Thomas has joined as the Intern for co-ordinating the VEP. The photos of various volunteering activities have been uploaded on the Google Drive.

3.2 Workshop on Clean Cooking Solutions by EMC

The Energy Management Centre and the Global Alliance for Clean Cooking Solutions organized a Stakeholder Workshop on April 23 as part of initiating the Segmentation Survey in Kerala for Clean Cooking Solutions. The State Director was specially invited for the workshop and we attended and actively participated in the discussions and deliberations.

3.3. Cycle Rally titled 'Silent Wheels' by ICE & IMA

Indus Cycling Embassy (ICE) in association with Indian Medical Association (IMA) initiated a Cycle Rally titled 'Silent Wheels' from Thiruvananthapuram to Kasargod in 12 days' time span. The State Director was invited to the Flag Off function and the State Director also joined in the campaign and showed our solidarity by cycling on the first day of the event.

3.4 Addressing the Feral Pigeon issue at PRS Hospital

Following the initial brief telephonic discussion with the authorities of PRS Hospital, Senior Education Officer and State Director visited the hospital and discussed in detail with Ms. Sandhya Mahadevan, General Manager on the practical ways of deterring the feral pigeons using nets, spikes, wires, grease and stuffed toys of predator animals.

3.5 Vembanad Fish Count 2015 by ATREE

The State Director and other Volunteers of WWF-India participated in the Vembanad Fish Count organized by ATREE and other partnering organisations on 28 & 29 May 2015

at Alappuzha. On the 28th evening, the orientation workshop was organized at Karma Sadan, Convent Square, Alappuzha in which the field level enumeration and identification techniques were introduced to the participants. On 29th early morning by 6am, the 120 participants were divided into 3 groups and boarded the boats with necessary datasheets and equipment for the data collection. The teams returned back to base by 1pm followed by lunch. The valedictory session was at 3pm and Dr. Madhusoodhanakurup, Vice Chancellor, Kerala University of Fisheries and Ocean Studies was the Chief Guest. All the team leaders compiled their observations of the day and the consolidated report was presented by Prof. Jayachandran, KUFOS.

3.6 Workshop on Small Scale Fishing organized by ICSF and Protsahan

The State Director attended the Workshop on Sustainable Development of Small Scale Fishing organized on June 9 at Hotel Chaithram, Thiruvananthapuram jointly organized by ICSF and Protsahan and actively participated in the discussions and deliberations.

3.7 Workshop on IWMP for Bharathapuzha by RDD, GoK

The Senior Education Officer attended the Workshop on Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) for Bharathapuzha River Basin organized by the Rural Development Dept., Govt. of Kerala on June 9 at Mascot Hotel, Thiruvananthapuram. Following this, discussions have been initiated with the Chief Secretary's Office to take this work forward and WWF-India will give technical support.

3.8 Workshop on Ecotourism Plan at Neyyar WLS

Senior Education Officer attended the 'Workshop on Preparation of Ecotourism Plan at Thiruvananthapuram Wildlife Division' held on 13th July at Neyyar WLS and actively participated in the discussion. Suggestions for possible changes were also given.

3.9 Meeting on Disaster Management & Climate Change

The State Director attended the 'Consultation on Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation' organized on 7th July 2015 at Mascot Hotel Thiruvananthapuram by State Disaster Management Authority, Dept. of Revenue and Disaster Management and Govt. of India and UNDP Project.

3.10 WWF Kerala Network Whatsapp Group

We have initiated a WWF Kerala Network Whatsapp Group with 90 Members as of now to facilitate easy communication of our projects, programmes and activities, updation and idea sharing among our network members from across the society. The members have been strictly advised to keep the discussions and postings to topics related to nature and environment connected to our mission.

3.11 Meeting on ‘Protecting the Western Ghats and our remaining Wetlands and Paddy Fields’ by Paristhithi Aikya Vedi

A meeting was called for by Paristhithi Aikya Vedi of which WWF is also a local partner on August 13 at the Trivandrum Press Club to discuss and chart the way forward on the increasing concern over protecting the Western Ghats and the remaining wetlands and paddy fields. The meeting was led by Smt. Sugathakumari and Dr. V.S. Vijayan. Many other eminent environmentalists also attended the meeting and shared their concerns. NGO representatives, concerned individuals, representatives of political parties and religious groups also attended the meeting and shared their concern.

3.12 Project discussion with ATREE-CERC Alappuzha

The State Director was invited for a consultative meeting on 8th September to discuss and deliberate on the approach, content and methodology of a project initiated by ATREE CERC Alappuzha funded by WIPRO titled ‘Habitat Learning’ mainly targeting school students in and around the Vembanad Lake.

3.13 GIM State level Steering Committee

The Government has included WWF-India as the NGO partner in the State level Steering Committee for Greening India Mission. The first meeting of the Committee was convened in the Principal Secretary (Envt.) Chamber on 28th September and Mr. Renjan Mathew Varghese, State Director attended representing WWF-India.

3.14 Vayalraksha Rally by Paristhithi Aikya Vedi

The remaining paddy fields and wetlands of Kerala are under severe threat of reclamation from the tourism and real estate lobbies. In this regard, the Paristhithi Aikya Vedi took out an awareness rally on 16 October from Government Secretariat, Statue Junction to Martyr’s Memorial, Palayam Junction. Being an integral part of Paristhithi Aikya Vedi, the State Director and the Senior Education Officer also took part in the same.

3.15 Meeting on addressing Thiruvananthapuram Airport Bird Menace by KSBB

In continuation of the earlier meeting held last year, the Member Secretary, Kerala State Biodiversity Board convened a meeting to review the issue of increasing bird menace in and around Thiruvananthapuram Airport and its runway. The State Director took photographs of the waste dumps alongside the runway boundary walls and clearly convinced the meeting that waste dumping was the major reason behind this growing menace. A detailed presentation with photos and possible suggestions was tabled. WWF has been requested to submit a detailed proposal on this to KSBB at the earliest. In this regard, the State Director and Senior Education Officer along with the help of an

internship student drafted the full technical and financial proposal and the same has been submitted to Dr. Laladhas, Member Secretary, KSBB on 8th January 2016.

3.16 People's Climate March from Vazhachal to Athirappilly

Kerala State Office supported the People's Climate March organized on 29th November 2015 under the initiative of River Research Centre, Chalakudy, Paristhithi Aikya Vedi and other like-minded individuals and institutions by mobilizing communication through our network and also providing 300 A3 size posters printed in color on 300 GSM sheets with images and attractive captions, some in Malayalam and some in English, on the theme of global warming and climate change to be used in the march.

3.17 Google Mailing Group initiated

WWF-India Kerala State Office already has a Yahoo Mailing Group maintained very actively since the last many years which helps us to effectively and efficiently communicate with our network members on the updates of our projects, programmes and activities. With much increasing gmail ids, a Google Mailing Group also has been initiated and around 700 new mail ids have been added to the same.

3.18 Guide German Student on 'Tiger Conservation in Kerala'

The State Director guided a XII Standard German Student Svenja Capitain under the exchange programme of TRINS on the topic of 'Saving the Tiger – Can Kerala make a difference?

3.19 Assessment of the environmental degradation in Kerala over the last 5 years by Paristhithi Aikya Vedi

WWF is part of the Parsithithi Aikya Vedi in Kerala which takes an active role in checking that development goes in balance with nature and environment. Paristhithi Aikya Vedi has come out with a document of the major environmental degradation and violations of environmental laws, legislations and regulations in Kerala during the present Government's rule. This was publicly tabled and presented in a meeting convened on 14th March 2016 at YMCA, Thiruvananthapuram. The State Director attended the meeting and took part in the discussions and deliberations and also spoke out on WWF's position on such issue and our various initiatives.

3.20 Meeting on the issues related to NH development by CCI

Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Thiruvananthapuram Chapter organized a meeting on 30th March 2016 to discuss the issues of rampant tree cutting and razing down of many laterite hillocks for reclamation and levelling as part of the NH development from Kazhakkootam to Chackai. Mr. Jiji Thomson, IAS, Adviser to the CM of Kerala, Dr.

Biju Prabhakar, IAS, Thiruvananthapuram District Collector, Sri. Suresh Gopi, Cine Actor and many others were present in the meeting. WWF was also invited to the meeting. The State Director attended and contributed to the discussions and deliberations on how the road widening and development works can be carried out with the least minimum impact on nature and environment by saving trees wherever possible, avoiding razing down of laterite hillocks, filling of wetlands etc.

3.21 WWF as facilitator for the Forestry Clubs of KFD

Dr.B.S.Corrie, PCCF & HoFF, KFD during the discussion with the State Director has requested WWF to look into how WWF can associate with the Forestry Clubs of KFD and bring them into a more active and dynamic level. Presently there are around 1000 Forestry Clubs. The details about the existing clubs, the various schemes, financial inputs, expected outputs etc have been collected from the Department. We have prepared and submitted a Vision Document and Action Plan for the Forestry Clubs in the State with WWF as Facilitator.

3.22 International Conference on Aquatic Exotics by University of Kerala

The Department of Aquatic Biology and Fisheries, University of Kerala organized a 3 day international conference from 28 – 30 March 2016 on invasive alien species mainly in our aquatic ecosystems. WWF was specially invited to the conference. The State Director attended the conference and took part in the discussions and deliberations. In the second day's experience sharing session, the State Director was given a slot to present WWF's position on invasive alien species.

Photo Gallery



Cycle Rally against noise polln. – Silent Wheels



ATREE Vembanad Fish Count



Rally for protection of paddy fields and wetlands



People's Climate March at Vazhachal



Meeting on Envntl. Degradation in Kerala



Intl. Conf. on Aquatic Exotics by Unty of Kerala

Publications

4.1 Bi-monthly newsletter Mruthika

We have completed the compiling, layout and printing of the pending 4 issues of our bimonthly newsletter Mruthika for July – August 2014, Sept – Oct 2014, Nov – Dec 2014 and Jan – Feb 2015. In continuation to this, the work on the drafting, layout and printing of the next six issues i.e. Mar – Apr 2015, May – June 2015, July – Aug 2015, Sept – Oct 2015, Nov – Dec 2015 and Jan – Feb 2016 have also been completed. Thousand copies of each issue has been printed and sent to our network. The soft copy of the newsletter is uploaded on the WWF-India website also under Kerala State Office webpage.

4.2 Rework WWF-India publication ‘Water Wisdom’

The publication titled ‘Water Wisdom’ published earlier by WWF-India was targeting kids. The publication has been revised with the help of Mohammed Ihjaz, Internship Student, SIMC Pune with the aim of reaching out to adults and the general public too. The text have been revised to Kerala scenario and accordingly the case studies, success stories, examples, images and photos have been reworked. We propose to refine it further more and bring it out as a publication from Kerala, maybe with the help of DC Books.

4.3 Articles for ‘Kerala Calling’

The Government of Kerala under the Information and Public Relations Dept. publishes a monthly magazine in English called Kerala Calling. I & PRD specially invited an article from the State Director for the April 2015 issue in the back ground of Earth Day falling on April 22. The article titled ‘Trees for the Earth’ was drafted and sent along with relevant images. With the International Tiger Day falling in July, the State Director wrote an article on the significance of Tiger and the need for its protection.

4.4 Other general articles written and published locally

- ✓ Article on Top Ten Environmental Issues at Global, National and Local levels
- ✓ Article on ‘Misconceptions among Keralites regarding our water resources’
- ✓ Note on ‘Issues faced by Range Officers’ prepared and submitted for the in-house training of Range Officers organized by KFD at Arippe

4.5 Poster Series on Biodiversity of Kerala for KFD

WWF-India Kerala State Office had some years back published a poster series (10 no. of posters) titled ‘Biodiversity of Kerala’. We have been using this in many of the exhibitions organized in Kerala. The Forest Department has taken a keen interest to publish this on a wider level to create awareness among the people especially in the Western Ghats fringe area. They have requested us to give a proposal for providing 200 sets of the poster series. The same has been submitted and accepted in principle for funding.

Internship

5.1 Ms. Milu Lal

Ms. Milu Lal, Internship Student, Amity School of Law, Noida underwent her one month internship at Kerala State Office and she undertook the study titled 'Stray Dog Menace in Thiruvananthapuram – the Way Forward and Legal Implications'. We plan to take this forward in discussion with AWBI and other animal protection groups, civil society organisations, local self-government departments and others.

5.2 Ms. Melissa

Ms. Melissa is a student of Oxford University and she is currently carrying out a work in connection with Ashtamudi Lake in Kollam District. We have provided her all possible support in the form of information, key contacts, secondary data etc.

Policy and Advocacy Level Interventions

6.1 Regional Workshop on Revision of National Forest Policy by IIFM

The State Director and Mr. Thomas Samuel from the Western Ghats Nilgiris Landscape Programme attended the Regional Consultation Workshop organized by IIFM, Bhopal on the revision of the National Forest Policy at IWST Bangalore on 4th & 5th November 2015 and actively contributed to the discussions and deliberations.

6.2 Public Consultation by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Science, Technology, Environment and Forests in Kochi

The State Director was specially invited to the Public Consultation of the Parliamentary Standing Committee organized at Taj Malabar, Kochi on 25th November 2015. Around 33 representatives of various NGOs were present in the meeting. The State Director submitted the WWF Submission on Environmental Issues of Kerala and particularly Kochi in written to the Committee.

6.3 KFRI Workshop on Invasive Alien Species

KFRI has an ongoing FAO funded project on Invasive Alien Species involving both India and Maldives. The project is coming to a close. To discuss the findings of the study and to see how the outcome of the project can be taken forward, a workshop was organized in the Conference Hall of KFRI at Peechi, Thrissur on 1 December 2015 with the involvement of the project teams from both the countries. With our earlier interactions with Dr. Sajeew, the Invasive Alien Species Expert of KFRI, the State Director was invited as a Special Guest to the workshop. The State Director took part in the discussions and deliberations and also listed out the possible ventures that we can take in future jointly by WWF, KFRI and Central and State Government Departments like MoEFCC, KSBB, and DoECC.

6.4 KSMTF & NFF Workshop on National Marine Fisheries Policy

The Central Government is in the process of revising the National Marine Fisheries Policy and the work has been entrusted to CMFRI, Kochi. They have put out a list of 80 plus questions which can be answered in a Yes/ No mode as public response to the policy formulation. Raising their voice against such an approach and also addressing their apprehensions about the policy, the National Fishermen Federation and Kerala Swathanthra Matsya Thozhilali Federation organized a workshop at the Fourth Estate Hall, Trivandrum Press Club on 4 December 2015. The State Director was invited for the workshop. The State Director took part in the discussions and deliberations and also presented the WWF submission on the same. The submission was well appreciated and later on request, the same was translated into the vernacular language, Malayalam, and published in their fortnightly newsletter Alakal.

6.5 ELDF Workshop on Strengthening PFM

With regard to the ELDF ongoing project on Participatory Forest Management (PFM) in Kerala and its conclusion, a workshop was organized in Kochi on 16th January 2016. The State Director was specially invited to the workshop. Mr. Thomas Samuel, Mr. Tiju Thomas from the WGNL Programme along with the major tribal stakeholders from Athirappilly – Vazhachal area attended the workshop. It was a really good learning and sharing experience. The top officers of Forests & Wildlife Dept. including Dr. Corrie, Mr. Joshi, Mr. K.J.Varghese and others were present in the meeting. The State Director put forward WWF's comments and suggestions towards improving PFM in the State.

6.6 Multimedia Presentation on Wetlands

WWF-India Kerala State Office has compiled a PowerPoint presentation titled 'Our Wetland Ecosystems in Peril' including the various proposed and ongoing development projects which has come up in the State, mainly as initiatives of the various departments of the Government itself, which are ultimately wreaking havoc to the wetland ecosystems in the State. Around 20 case studies are included in the presentation. This has been shared with Thanal for wider publicity to make the people more aware on the consequences of such actions and to ensure that local resistance comes up against wetland reclamation and conversion of any kind and these natural habitats are protected for our food and water security

6.7 Elephant poaching issue in Kerala

We are keeping thorough track of the recent Elephant Poaching issue in Kerala and is in constant interaction with Dr. Shekar Kumar Niraj IFS, Head, TRAFFIC-India on the same.

6.8 WCCB State Volunteers Meeting

Mr. Renjan Mathew Varghese, State Director, WWF-India being a Volunteer of the Wildlife Crime Control Bureau under the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Govt. of India attended the first meeting of the Volunteers of Kerala State organized at WCCB Office, Kochi. Out of the total 14 volunteers in the State, 9 attended. Mr. Murthy, IFS, Dy. Director, WCCB Regional Office, Bangalore and Mr. Mathivannan, Inspector led the discussions and deliberations on the magnitude and extent of wildlife crime in the State, role of volunteers and how we can work together to effectively and efficiently curb wildlife crime. The State Director put forward the suggestion of WCCB organizing a sensitization and capacity building programme involving all Volunteers on how things can be moved forward at the local field level.

Photo Gallery



Mtng. on revision of National Forest Policy



KFRI Workshop on Invasive Alien Species



Workshop on National Marine Fisheries Policy



ELDF Workshop on PFM at Kochi



Meeting of the WCCB Volunteers in Kochi



Proposals Prepared and Submitted

7.1 Project brainstorming

The new staff incumbent Mr. Visanth is preparing two proposals, one on Coastal Walk and the other for Tribal Communities, under the guidance of the State Director. A brainstorming session was conducted within the office to review the progress of the work and take the inputs from others on how to improve the proposal. The proposal 'Coastal Walk' has been finalized and submitted to the Dept. of Environment and Climate Change, Govt. of Kerala for funding.

7.2 Call Conference with Conservation Alliances

Based on the Conservation Strategies identified for Kerala in the last State Offices Workshop held in the WWF-India Secretariat, a call conference was held with the Conservation Alliances on 16 October 2015. Based on that, the three full proposals titled 'Teachers for Tigers', 'Coastal Walk', and 'C4 – Climate Change Challenge Campaign' have been prepared and submitted to CA for probable funding from corporates under their CSR mandate.

7.3 Proposal for Earth Day 2015

A detailed proposal was prepared for Earth Day 2015 on beach cleanup along the Shanghumugham Beach and installation of litter bins and submitted to Allianz Cornhill, Technopark Campus, Thiruvananthapuram.

7.4 Proposal for NTD 2015

Every year National Technology Day is observed on May 11. Kerala State Council for Science, Technology and the Environment has called for proposals for observing NTD 2015 and we have prepared a proposal on '*Wildlife Census - Modern Tools and Techniques*' and submitted for funding.

7.5 Proposal for WED 2015

The proposal for observing World Environment Day 2015 titled '*Be a Green Warrior to reduce your Ecological Footprint*' is prepared to be submitted to the Dept. of Environment and Climate Change, Govt. of Kerala for funding.

7.6 Proposals for NIMS

WWF and NIMS have had many good years of association at various levels in projects, promotion of sales of conservation products, jointly organising environment education, awareness and outreach programmes etc. In this regard, a list of ideas on future possible joint conservation oriented projects and programmes was prepared and submitted to Mr. Faizal Khan, Managing Director, NIMS Heart Foundation and NI Group of Institutions.

7.7 Proposal for International Tiger Day 2015

The proposal for observing International Tiger Day on July 29th was prepared and submitted to WWF-India Secretariat for technical and financial support. The proposal has also been submitted to the Field Director and Deputy Director (East) of Periyar Tiger Reserve for possible joint programme and financial support.

7.8 Proposal on Rain Walk

A proposal on 'Rain Walk' has been prepared to be submitted to CCDU, Kerala Water Authority and discussions have been initiated with Dr. Subash Chandra Bose, Director, CCDU, KWA for possible sponsorship. The proposal aims at sensitizing the public, mainly youngsters, to experience, enjoy and understand our monsoon, its direct and indirect impacts with regard to its quantity and seasonality

7.9 Proposal for Water Campaign

For the WWF-India Water Campaign to be rolled out soon, the full detailed note for Thiruvananthapuram City along with relevant photographs have been submitted to Dr. Abhishek Bhatnagar, Co-ordinator, Water Campaign.

7.10 Proposal for conducting a 'Workshop on Illegal Pet Trade'

Proposal for organizing a one day 'Workshop on Illegal Pet Trade' jointly by WWF-India and WCCB has been prepared and submitted to WCCB.

7.11 Proposal for Earth Day 2016

The Ministry of Earth Sciences, Govt. of India has called for proposals for observing Earth Day 2016 on April 22. Kerala State Office has submitted a proposal requesting funding.

Sales/ Fundraising

8.1 Promotion of sales of WWF-India Conservation Products

With the objective of maximizing sales, the 100 catalogs received in the office were dispatched to previous years customers and also to a list of other new prospective customers. The necessary follow-up through email and phone is also being carried out from the office. We are trying all means and methods to promote the sales of our Conservation Products. Many orders have come through and we are servicing all the orders with Mumbai and Delhi Office and also doing the thorough follow-up to ensure that the customers get the products on time. For 2015-16, we have totally done sales of around Rs 8 lakhs.

8.2 Fundraising

8.2.1 Meet Director, Ecotourism

The State Director met Mr. Joseph Thomas, Director, Ecotourism, Govt. of Kerala to discuss on how WWF and the Dept. of Ecotourism can work together in consultancy works, environment education, awareness and outreach programmes and nature interpretation improvement projects. A list of likely projects and programmes have been submitted for consideration and possible financial support.

8.2 TTW sponsorship by DC Group

Over the past few years we have been organizing around 15 Teachers Training Workshop in Kerala on Environment Education and Education for Sustainable Development (EE & ESD) with the support of CPREEC, Chennai. But this year, since CPREEC is not funding this project, a proposal has been submitted to Mr. Ravi DeeCee, CEO, DC Group of Companies & Member, WWF-India State Advisory Board for possible sponsorship.

8.3 NIMS Naturopathy Outlet at Kovalam and association with WWF

NIMS has opened its first Naturopathy Outlet in Kovalam on 19 December 2015. The State Director was also invited as a Guest to the event. Along with the natural products of NIMS being sold from the outlet, a considerably good space has been given for keeping WWF Conservation Products in the store. NIMS has taken a variety of products from us to the tune of Rs 1.5 lakhs now itself. Eventually they plan to open more outlets in prominent locations across Kerala.

Participation in Exhibitions

9.1 Golden Jubilee Celebrations of TKM College of Arts & Science at Kollam

An exhibition was arranged as part of the above from 30th November to 6th December 2015 in the college campus. WWF was given a stall and it was manned by Mr. Harish Kumar, Administrative Assistant.

9.2 Participation in the exhibition as part of Annam 2015

As in previous years, CISSA invited WWF to take part in Annam 2015 at Kochi from 10 – 14 December by providing us an exhibition stall free of charges. WWF put up the stall with our exhibition panels, standees and other materials. The work was co-ordinated by Mr. Harish Kumar and intern Mars Joseph.

9.3 Exhibition Stall as part of National Biodiversity Fest 2016 of KSBB

Kerala State Biodiversity Board organized the National Biodiversity Fest in Nehru Stadium, Kottayam from 19 – 25 February, 2016. WWF was specially invited to put up our exhibition stall and two stalls were allocated to us free of cost. Mr. Harish Kumar, Administrative Assistant arranged the stalls and manned it during the fest days.

Photo Gallery



NIMS Naturopathy Outlet at Kovalam promoting WWF Conservation Products



Exbtn. for Golden Jubilee Celebrations of TKM

Exbtn. for Annam 2015 at Kochi



Pavizhamalli – Honoring Sugathakumari Teacher – Collash and WWF Stall at the venue

Other Activities

10.1 Pavizhamalli - Honouring Sugathakumari Teacher at Trivandrum

On 1st November, friends and well-wishers of Sugathakumari Teacher organized Pavizhamalli – an event at Kanakakunnu Palace to honour Teacher and her various contributions in the different fields. It included a seminar in the morning, recital of Teacher's poems, environmental NGOs meet, photography exhibition, collash etc. WWF also partnered and contributed in the event by preparing a collash from newspaper clippings of Teacher over the years in connection with her contribution to the green movement in the State. The State Director and the Senior Education Officer took active participation in the day's events. Exhibition stalls of environmental NGOs were also arranged at the venue and WWF was also allotted a stall. We exhibited our conservation products for sale, various publications in the form of posters, stickers, pamphlets, handbooks, newsletters etc. Mr. Harish Kumar, Administrative Assistant and other regular Volunteers manned the stall.

10.2 Maintenance of Bird Point in Technopark Campus

WWF with the support of Allianz Cornhill has set up a Bird Point within the Technopark Campus in front of the Park Centre. It includes Bird Baths, Bird Feeders and artificial Bird Nests. This was established around two years back and the responsibility of regular maintenance and upkeep has been entrusted to WWF-India and the same is being carried out well by Mr. Harish Kumar, Administrative Assistant.

10.3 Nature Education & Research Centre (NERC)

The Kerala State Government has given 20 cents of land to WWF-India many years back and WWF proposes to set up a Nature Education & Research Centre in this piece of land located right in the heart of the City in Vellayambalam. But because of lack of funds, we have not been able to materialise the same as of now. Since the area is slightly waterlogged, thick growth of wild vegetation has come up in the area including some tall but thin and weak trees. Based on the feedback from the neighbours, we hired an earth mover and the whole area has been cleared off all wild vegetation and the soil has been levelled and the waterlogging cleared to a certain extent. We propose to plant different species like bamboo, other native fruiting and flowering species during the rainy season with the involvement of school students and Volunteers of WWF-India and convert it into an Urban Forest.

10.4 WWF PATA Bagh Mitra Award to Periyar Tiger Reserve

This prestigious award jointly instituted by WWF and PATA was earlier awarded to Parambikulam Tiger Reserve and now Periyar has claimed the award. The award function was arranged at WWF-India Secretariat Auditorium. Mr. Amit Mallik, IFS, Field

Director, Periyar TR and Mr. Sanjayan Kumar, IFS, Deputy Director, Periyar TR East Division came to receive the award. Mr. Renjan Mathew Varghese, State Director was also present on the prestigious occasion.

10.5 Indian Flag Hoisted on Independence Day at the State Office

Based on the circular from WWF-India Secretariat, the Indian TriColor Flag was hoisted in the State Office on August 15. The State Director hoisted the flag and was joined by all the staff and staff families to sing the national anthem. Sweets were also distributed.

Photo Gallery



**Levelling of the NERC 20 cents plot at Vellayambalam
with the objective of developing it into an Urban Forest with the involvement of Volunteers**



WWF PATA Bagh Mitra Award to Periyar TR



Flag hoisting on Independence Day



Why we are here

To stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature.

www.panda.org

**World Wide Fund for Nature – India
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