



## REPORT ON WILDLIFE WEEK CELEBRATION ACROSS THE GANGA STATES (2<sup>nd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> October 2019)

The Wildlife Institute of India (WII) under the NMCW-WII “Biodiversity Conservation and Ganga Rejuvenation” project marked the Wildlife week celebration during 2<sup>nd</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> October, 2019. The celebration conducted throughout the week also observed the celebration of “Ganga River Dolphin Day” on the 5<sup>th</sup> of October, 2019 to spread awareness and significance of conservation of indicator species with the focus on “National Aquatic animal” Gangetic Dolphin. Various activities were organized in association with Saraswati Vidya Mandir, Srikot, Ganganali, Srinagar, Garhwal (Uttarakhand), Anandmayi Seva Sadan Mahila Municipal Inter College, Mayapur Haridwar (Uttarakhand), Primary School, Sirora Banger, Anupshahr, Bulandshahr (Uttar Pradesh), Junior High School, Sarnath Chirgaon, Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh), Gajendra Middle School, Doniya Tola, Naugachia, Bhagalpur (Bihar), Samda village, Sahibganj (Jharkhand), Talapark and Golaghata Pandal, Kolkata (West Bengal). The objectives of these activities was to brief the students, teachers, tourist and local communities about the importance of celebrating Wildlife week and inter-relationship between wildlife and human beings in maintaining the ecological balance.

### Activities:

#### 1. Naugachia, Bhagalpur, Bihar

**Dated: 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2019**

**Team Members: *Ganga Praharis* of Bhagalpur**

On the occasion of Wildlife week and Mahatma Gandhi Jayanti, the *Ganga Praharis* of Bhagalpur organized an awareness rally with the school students and teachers at Gajendra Middle School, Doniya Tola, Naugachia, Bhagalpur, Bihar. A total of 100 students and 10 teachers attended the awareness rally. During the rally, the students, teachers and *Ganga Praharis* motivated the local communities about the conservation of biodiversity of Ganga and also to maintain cleanliness in their surroundings. The programme concluded with the distribution of brochures.

#### 2. Srinagar, Garhwal, Uttarakhand

**Dated: 4<sup>th</sup> October, 2019**

**Team Members: Mr. Aakash Mohan Rawat and Mr. Keshav Kumar**

On the occasion of 'Wildlife Week Celebration,' a conservation awareness programme was organised at Saraswati Vidya Mandir, Srikot, Ganganali, Srinagar, Garhwal (Uttarakhand). The main objectives of the workshop were to sensitize the students about the importance of Wildlife Week and anthropogenic activities along the Ganga Rivers and its tributaries, which cause the adverse effect on the qualitative and quantitative aspects of the Ganga River and its Biodiversity. A total of 262 students from class 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> and 7 teachers participated in the programme. The programme started with the registration of the participants. Thereafter, Mr. Aakash Mohan Rawat gave an overview on the Biodiversity of the Ganga River and one of its important tributary, Alaknanda River. Later on, Mr. Keshav Kumar provided an introduction of Wildlife week celebration and the importance of Wildlife in our ecosystem. Other than this, the students were also informed about the efforts being taken by the Wildlife Institute of India for their conservation. After this, a Puzzle and Quiz competition was organized based on aquatic species found in the Ganga River. The students and teachers were then asked to give their feedbacks based on the information disseminated. The workshop was concluded by the distribution of awareness materials to the teachers and refreshments to all the participants. The workshop concluded with the distribution of prizes, brochures and caps to the participants.

### **3. Haridwar, Uttarakhand**

**Dated: 4<sup>th</sup> October, 2019**

**Team Members: Mr. Ratish Singh, Ms. Preeti Shukla and Ms. Mrinalini Agrawal**

An awareness programme was organized at the Anandmayi Seva Sadan Mahila Municipal Inter College, Mayapur, Haridwar on 4<sup>th</sup> October 2019". A total of 133 students from class 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> and 5 teachers attended the programme. The programme was started with the registration of the participants. Thereafter, Mr. Ratish explained about the importance of Wildlife Week celebration and also introduced the WII- NMCG project and its various objectives. Ms. Preeti Shukla informed about the different species of the Ganga River, their importance and how these species maintained the balance in an ecosystem, other than this she also informed about the concept of "Bal Ganga Prahari". After that student were divided into 3 teams for the group activity and quiz competition. The programme concluded with the distribution of certificates and prizes to the winners by the Principal Smt. Kamlesh Chauhan. Species information brochures, caps and refreshments were distributed to the participants.

### **4. Anupshahr, Bulandshahr, Uttar Pradesh**

**Dated: 4<sup>th</sup> October, 2019**

**Team Members: Mr. Rahil Khan and Mr. Sumit Nautiyal**

An awareness programme was organized for the school students at Primary School, Sirora Banger, Anupshahr, Bulandshahr, Uttar Pradesh. A total of 165 students and 5 teachers attended the programme. Mr. Rahil Khan explained about the importance of wildlife week and also informed about the different species that are found in the Ganga River. After these various activities like animal voice identification, drawing and quiz competition was

organized for the students. The programme concluded with the distribution of certificates, prizes and refreshments.

#### **5. Sarnath, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh**

**Dated: 5<sup>th</sup> October, 2019**

**Team Members: Ms. Sunita Rawat and Ms. Vidhushi Lakhera**

Conservation awareness programme was organized at the Junior high school, Sarnath, Chirgaon, Varanasi to mark the celebration of “Ganga River Dolphin Day” and Wildlife Week. A total of 108 students and 6 teachers participated the awareness programme. Ms. Sunita Rawat informed about the importance of Wildlife week and gave details about the Gangetic River Dolphin by showing photographs and documentaries. Group interaction was conducted where students shared their thought and knowledge about the Gangetic River Dolphin. The workshop was concluded with the distribution of brochures and refreshments.

#### **6. Sahibganj, Jharkhand**

**Dated: 4<sup>th</sup> October, 2019**

**Team Member: Ms. Ekta Sharma and *Ganga Praharis* of Jharkhand**

A Prabhat feri was organized by the *Ganga Praharis* on the occasion of Wildlife Week in collaboration with Forest Department of Jharkhand and NSS at Samda Sij Village, Sahibganj, Jharkhand. A total of 107 participants from Forest Department, NSS participants, Students of Sahibganj College, local communities and *Ganga Praharis* attended the Prabhat feri. The main objective was to create awareness among the local communities and students about the importance of the Wildlife week, biodiversity of the Ganga River and to maintain cleanliness in their surroundings and on the banks of the Ganga River.

#### **7. Talapark, Kolkata, West Bengal**

**Dated: 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> October, 2019**

**Team Members: Mr. Saurav Gawan, Ms. Shuchismita Das and *Ganga Praharis* of West Bengal**

On the occasion of Wildlife week, *Ganga Praharis* initiated an awareness campaign during the Grand celebration of Durga Puja in West Bengal. In two days programme, the *Ganga Praharis* conducted awareness interaction, cleanliness drives and mobilized the local people on the issues and solutions related to celebration of clean and Green Durga Puja especially regarding the religious offering in the water bodies and idol immersions. A large number of people visited the Puja Pandals and interacted with the *Ganga Praharis* and appreciated their efforts. More than 1000 people visited the awareness stall and interacted with the *Ganga Praharis*.

Also on 5<sup>th</sup> October, 2019 on the occasion of Ganga River Dolphin Day a mass awareness campaign on the National Aquatic Animal of India was organized by the *Ganga Praharis*. The event coincided with the auspicious “Saptami”. The *Ganga Praharis* interacted with a large

group of people including school children, local communities, devotees, administrators and NRIs. The enthusiastic and concerned community members pledged to join the *Ganga Praharis* initiatives and WII-NMCG team in the Conservation efforts. After the event, the WII-NMCG team gave the certificate of appreciation to the Durga Pandal committee who assured that they will continue similar collaborative programmes in the near future.

## **8. Golaghata Pandal, Kolkata, West Bengal**

**Dated: 7<sup>th</sup> October, 2019**

**Team Members: Mr. Saurav Gawan, Ms. Shuchismita Das and Ganga Praharis**

On the occasion of Maha Navami, the *Ganga Praharis* in West Bengal organized an awareness programme at Golaghata Pandal, Kolkata. The *Ganga Praharis* interacted with the devotees, children, traffic police, home guards, and local people and talked about the Biodiversity of the Ganga River and its importance in ensuring the river health. They also motivated them to join in the efforts towards its conservation efforts. More than 1000 people visited the awareness stall and interacted with the *Ganga Praharis* and WII-NMCG team.

### **Annexure I (Programme Schedule)**

	<b>Session</b>	<b>Resource person</b>
09:00 – 09:30	Registration	Ganga Praharis
09:30- 10:00	Biodiversity Profile of Ganga River: An overview	NMCG-WII team
10:00 -10:30	Overview on Wildlife week celebration and the importance of Wildlife in maintaining the Ecological balance	NMCG-WII team
10:30 -11:00	Awareness activities: Puzzle and Quiz Competition/cleanliness drive/Plantation drive/Awareness Rally/Animal voice identification	<i>Ganga Praharis</i> and NMCG-WII team
11:00-11-15	Interaction and feedback of <i>Bal Ganga Praharis</i>	<i>Ganga Praharis</i> and NMCG-WII team
11:15 – 11:30	Distribution of awareness material	<i>Ganga Praharis</i>
11:30 – 11:45	Refreshments	

11:45 – 12:00	Group Photograph	
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**Annexure II (Total Number of Participants across the Ganga States)**

S. No.	Date	State	School /Village	No. of Student	No. of Teacher	No. of <i>Ganga Praharis</i>	Activities
1	4-10-2019	Uttarakhand	Anandmayi Seva Sadan Mahila Municipal Inter College, Mayapur Haridwar	133	5		Awareness programme, quiz competition
2			Saraswati Vidya Mandir, Srikot, Ganganali, Srinagar, Gharwal	263	7		Awareness programme and Group activity
3	4-10-2019	Uttar Pradesh	Primary School, Sirora Banger, Anupshahr, Bulandshahr	165		5	Drawing Competition, Quiz Competition and Animal voice identification game
4	5-10-2019		Junior High School, Sarnath Chiraigaon, Varanasi	108	6		Awareness programme
5	2-10-2019	Bihar	Gajendra Middle School, Doniya Tola, Naugachia, Bhagalpur	100	10	2	Awareness Rally
6	4-10-2019	Jharkhand	Samda sij Village, Sahibganj	Total of 107 participants from forest department, NSS participants, students from Sahibganj college, local communities and Ganga Praharis			Prabhat Feri
7	4-10-2019	West Bengal	Talapark, Kolkata			10	Awareness programme, cleanliness drive

8	5-10-2019	West Bengal	Talapark, Kolkata			10	Awareness programme
9	7-10-2019	West Bengal	Golaghata Pandal, Kolkata			10	Awareness programme

### Annexure III (Photo gallery)



(A)



(B)



(D)



(E)

**Awareness programme at Srinagar, Gharwal, Uttarakhand**



(F)



(G)



(H)

Awareness programme and prize distribution at Haridwar, Uttarakhand



(I)



(J)

Awareness programme at Anupshahr, Bulandshahr, Uttar Pradesh



(K)



(L)

**Awareness programme at Sarnath, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh**



(M)



(N)

**Awareness rally at Naugachia, Bhagalpur, Bihar**



(M)



(N)

Prabhat feri at Sahibganj, Jharkhand



(O)



(P)



(Q)



(R)

**Awareness programme at Talapark and Golaghata Pandal, Kolkata, West Bengal**