

SACON News



Vol. 15 (2) April – June 2018

From the Director's Desk

Dr. K. Sankar

This newsletter, April to June 2018 issue covers popular articles from research fellows and various activities of SACON for the first quarter of the financial year 2018-2019.

The much-awaited Post Graduate Course in 'Ornithology and Conservation Biology' has been initiated by SACON during June 2018 with funding support from MoEFCC. The Online examination and interview have been conducted for selection of Post Graduate students for the above-mentioned course. A new building with academic and laboratory facilities has been constructed. A fully equipped classroom with audio-visual facilities has been created for post-graduate students.

The M.Sc. classes are going to be started from July 2018. I hope all faculty members of SACON will give their best to the students and have a productive year ahead.



In This Issue

Institutional events

- ✓ World Environment Day Celebration
- ✓ Beat plastic pollution campaign

Popular articles

- ✓ A critical look at 'Human-Wildlife Conflict'
- ✓ Visit for Wildlife Conservation Expo and Research Collaboration in San Francisco, USA
- ✓ The Long Awaited Call
- ✓ Sentinels of the Saltpan
- ✓ We have a 'Biodiversity Engineer' in SACON campus!
- ✓ Anthropology in Wildlife

World Environment Day Celebration

5th June 2018

A full day Environment Festival was organized by SACON for school children from different schools at Coimbatore. The festival acted as an effective and a common platform for school kids, teachers, youth, artists and SACON staff to come together to actively participate in saving our environment. This platform also acted as a catalyst to bring forward the best environment-friendly plastic free practices to encourage and empower the participants towards a sustainable living.





Beat plastic pollution campaign

26th – 27th May 2018

Approximately 600 students from 10 schools of Coimbatore have participated in the festival. Various events were organized for the children to make them aware on the plastic pollution and to imbibe the idea of using recyclable products for healthier environment.

As a part of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History (SACON) conducted a number of events in Coimbatore to raise awareness among citizens and students to fight against plastic pollution and clean the environment plastic-free.

SACON organized a clean-up drive in Kumaraswamy Lake on 26th May 2018. Approximately 200 people including volunteers from Coimbatore City Municipal Corporation, Tamil Nadu Forest Department, Kovai Kulangal Pathukappu Amaippu, Ramakrishna Mission Vidyalaya - FDMSE and Krishna College of Technology participated in the said event and successfully cleaned and disposed the plastic wastes from most part of the lake.



Dr. K. Sankar, Director, SACON inaugurated the event and officially flagged-off the clean-up drive. All the volunteers participated in the lake clean-up drive were provided with a t-shirt, hat, gloves, masks, garbage bags, rakes and baskets. After three hours, volunteers managed to remove more than a tonne of garbage from Kumaraswamy lake, which at present is one among the most polluted lakes in the city. The Coimbatore City Municipal Corporation (CCMC) extended support by providing their staff and disposing the large pile of plastic garbage gathered from the lake.



The clean-up drive was conducted at the SBOA Matriculation Higher Secondary School premises with addresses by Mrs T. Chandini, Advisor, MoEF&CC, Mrs. Vanitha Mohan, Environmentalist and Mrs. Geetha Gopinath, Principal ,SBOA Matric. & Hr. Sec. School and the Director, SACON.



SACON also organized a clean-up drive of Noyyal River front at Perur on 27th May 2018. The Director, SACON inaugurated the event and officially flagged-off the clean-up drive. All the volunteers who participated in the lake clean-up drive were provided with a t-shirt, hat, gloves, masks, garbage bags, rakes, brooms and baskets. Approximately 200 people including volunteers from Coimbatore City Municipal Corporation, Tamil Nadu Forest Department, Kovai Kulangal Pathukappu Amaippu, and Environmentalist foundation of India participated in the said event and successfully cleaned and disposed the plastic wastes from the river front and the adjoining temple premises.

SACON put up four iron-made notice boards on the river bank and temple premises portraying the message on not to use plastic products or dispose any plastic garbage in the lake areas. The clean-up drive was concluded at the Perur Temple premises with addresses by Dr. T. Chandini, Advisor, MoEF&CC, and the Director, SACON, followed by refreshments. All the volunteers participated in the event were provided a certificate of appreciation.



Correspondence – neosacon@gmail.com
drkrish31@gmail.com
goldingq@gmail.com



A critical look at 'Human-Wildlife Conflict'

Tejas karmarkar, Apurva Patil and Sreya Bhattacharya

In the blind race of today's strive for development, human beings are exploiting nature at a rapid rate. Unchecked encroachment into natural and wild habitats increases 'Human-wildlife conflict' incidences day by day. As young ecologists, we study terms such as: human-wildlife conflict, conflict resolution, conflict mitigation and many more words that clearly have negative connotations. At the same time, positive trends such as human-wildlife coexistence, harmony with nature, man-animal bonds etc. are lost to the narrative.

Through this article, we wish to share three memorable events which we experienced during our time in the field. These experiences have touched our hearts and opened our eyes towards men's capacity for coexistence and tolerance towards wildlife.

We are currently working in Gujarat, on the Sarus Crane Conservation Project. We have established our field camp in Nadiad town. As a part of the project work, we required to communicate with locals to know the possible sarus sighting locations and the locations of nesting. Our field assistant and we interact with many locals through the course of our work, and sometimes we are counter questioned. These questions include basic inquiries about who we are and our whereabouts to even interrogation regarding our interest and intention towards the sarus crane. So much so, that the villagers also asked us how our efforts would help conserve the species.

With the help of our field assistant, we attempted to address all their questions and underlined the various aspects and benefits of the project. Doubts answered, the villagers ensured to inform us of any nests observed. Following this exchange, our assistant told that these people belong to Rabari community of Kathiawar region of Gujarat and are well known for their conservation practices. It was only after ensuring that we were not a threat to the sarus crane or other wildlife - did they will provide information about nest locations.

The second situation is related to how wildlife can be found thriving in human dominated areas. Every morning and evening we observed thousands of parakeets flying over our building (Field camp). On further inspection we discovered that these parakeets roost on the tall trees adjacent to the railway station. Many of you must have observed how both Common Myna and Hill Myna use railway stations and other human made structures for feeding and nesting. This highlights how wildlife has come to adapt to humans

and human habitation and live successfully in these areas seemingly filled with anthropogenic pressures.



Habitat sharing with Sarus in paddy field © Apurva Patil

The third incidence is quite thrilling and interesting. We were surveying wetlands in the month of March in Kheda. One day a villager mentioned something about a mugger crocodile to our assistant. When we asked our assistant about the conversation, he explained that a large adult mugger has been heard making sounds nearby. Upon inquiring about the location of the mugger, the villager volunteered to take us directly to it. We were amazed when we entered a village street and



Habitat sharing with a mugger in paddy field © Vishal

were wondering how the mugger could possibly be in this densely built area. It turned out that the crocodile had taken up residence in the backyard of one of the village houses. A full-grown female, she had dug up her burrow, ready to lay her eggs right there, at a distance of less than five metres from the village. In fact, there were three nesting burrows, with one among these a mere five feet from the cattle shed!

On yet another field excursion in search of the sarus crane and its nests, we came upon a mugger in a paddy field. After travelling only one kilometre - we saw two more muggers in another paddy field. Our local field assistant, Mr. Vishal Mistry, informed us that during the monsoon the area experiences flooding. This region is known for its wetlands and during the wet season, the small wetlands and farmland get connected with many canals due to increase level of water and they create larger water bodies which are accessible to the crocodiles. This is regarded as common place by the locals and people here live alongside the muggers with little or no conflict.

With all the horror stories of harm faced by both wildlife and humans from each other, such incidences highlight how humans and wildlife can and is living in relative harmony with each other. These can be used as examples to create awareness among the public and open the mind of the common man as to how perception regarding wildlife can be changed and how human-wildlife conflict can be altered to human-wildlife relationship.

Correspondence - karmarkartejas@gmail.com
patilapurva25@gmail.com
bsreya1994@gmail.com

was participated by 27 wildlife conservation organizations and various donors from across the world. During the event, he had an opportunity to interact with an eminent world-renowned conservationist, Dr. Rodney Jackson from Snow Leopard Conservancy, Sonoma CA, who shared his experience on snow leopard conservation in the Himalayas. This conservation network event had various top plenary speakers who gave talks on Wildlife Crime Prevention, Cheetah Conservation in Botswana, Proyecto Titi, Save the Elephant in Kenya and Conservation for Tomorrow: Big-Bold-Hopeful. In addition, Dr. Ramesh attended the research collaborative meeting of S.P.E.C.I.E.S. to develop research collaborations in California, USA. This meeting was held at S.P.E.C.I.E.S., California, USA, between 23rd and 24th of April. As part of the collaborative meeting Dr. Anthony J. Giordano, Founder Director of S.P.E.C.I.E.S, California, USA, had detailed execution of methodological aspects on implementation of various long-term collaborative research projects on human-carnivore conflicts in India based on his successful implementation of human-jaguar conflict projects in South America. Dr. Anthony is helping with developing scientific technicality involved in fund raising from various agencies. To continue further with our international collaboration S.P.E.C.I.E.S has donated 33 camera traps to SACON officially to support the ongoing research project "Assessing anthropogenic threats to large carnivores in the Western Ghats part of Tamil Nadu". This collaborative effort will continue to strengthen Dr. Ramesh's research in India, and also would explore possibilities of student exchange between countries who are working on human-carnivore conflicts.

Correspondence – ramesh81ngl@gmail.com

Visit for Wildlife Conservation Expo and Research Collaboration in San Francisco, USA

Dr. T. Ramesh

As part of the fund-raising skill development program, Dr. Ramesh attended the Wildlife Conservation Expo which was organized by Wildlife Conservation Network, San Francisco, USA at Cañada College Redwood City, University of California on 21st April 2018. This event



Fund raising expo at Canada College, Redwood City, USA

The Long Awaited Call

Zainab Khan, Pankaj Koparde, Paul Antony, Kaushik Koli and Aditi Neema

Continuing our research journey in search of the enigmatic Forest Owlet, we returned to Toranmaal, after fifteen-days of failed attempts in locating the species (for the previous article, refer to SACON Newsletter 15(1): 3-4). Our return to Toranmaal was no different from the earlier visit. The summer sun was unforgiving. Working in the scorching heat of the central Indian summer is no easy task. The heat took a toll on our health but without losing hope and with complete determination we kept on looking for Forest Owlets, desperately waiting for its glimpse and soothing call 'Kuhu'!

On our earlier field visit, we sampled areas mainly in the hilly terrain along the Toranmaal Ghat road. Just to get to a suitable sampling location, we had to hike for kilometers criss-crossing mountains. On this visit, we focused on low-lying areas, especially low elevation areas of Toranmaal. Working in non-undulating terrain is easy in terms of approach but this time the difficult part was to work in a roasting environment in areas with little tree cover. Day-after-day we surveyed grids narrowed down by us. Though we did not succeed in detecting the Forest Owlet, observing Jungle and Spotted Owlets was a relief. After vigorously working for twelve days, we narrowed down on areas remaining for our survey. That is when we came across a non-sampled grid. Little did we know what was waiting ahead for us.

We moved to the marked area the very next morning and started with the call playbacks following our field protocols. That is when our field assistant (Avinash) heard a call, something for which we had almost lost hope in. Yet we had to finish what we had started. By the time the playback was done, Avinash had heard the call seven times in a row! None of us heard it, though! Was he imagining or were our ears not trained enough? It was too big a chance to miss out on, and so we moved quickly towards the direction of the call with Avinash guiding us. On reaching the spot, we saw an owlet, perched on a dry tree, sitting quiet and calm. It was a strange bird indeed. It was browner than usual, its belly whiter and size bigger than the ones we had observed so far. We had a good idea of what we were looking at but still holding our breaths, as we clicked pictures and sent to experts for identification – the power of Whatsapp! As soon as we got a confirmation, we literally bowed to the almighty bird for giving us a glimpse! It was our first ever Forest Owlet sighting after all!



Spotted owlet © Kaushik Koli

It would not be an exaggeration if we tell you that at this point our eyes filled with tears of joy as we hugged each other to celebrate! We had finally done it! We had finally located one individual in the vast range of Toranmaal Reserved Forest. The owlet kept watching us as we kept admiring it. We kept our distance while making notes on its behavior and features for the hour that followed because we were not ready enough to leave yet. Only when the owlet left did we leave the spot and trekked up and down the hills to reach our vehicle, to find that our diver had abandoned us in the forest. He did not come back to pick us up and we were forced to hitch rides on our way back to basecamp. Nevertheless, it was all worth it for that glimpse of one of the rarest birds. We went to look for it in the evening as well, but could not find signs of it. As we looked around, the fields, the dogs, the people, the burnt patches of land, it was hard to grasp the reality of its presence in this highly disturbed region. Our stay at Toranmaal was coming to an end, but the story had become even more complex by finding a Forest Owlet at such a site. It was time to move to other spots and to find further clues in our quest to understand the Forest Owlet habitat.

For our next field session, we moved close to the hustle-bustle of Mumbai city, to Tansa Wildlife Sanctuary. Tansa, the land of birds, lies in the Mahuli hills. The Sanctuary is spread across 320 sq. km. area around the backwaters of the Tansa dam on the River Tansa. The Sanctuary overlaps with the forests around the Vaitarana Dam backwaters and Mahuli Hills. Tansa Dam is one of the main drinking water and water supply sources among the six reservoirs that provide water to Mumbai. This means that there is constant patrolling and maintenance in and around the pipelines that pass through Tansa Wildlife Sanctuary. For many years Tansa

has been a birders paradise, especially for Mumbai folks. Since 2014, reports of Forest Owlet from Tansa has attracted greater attention from birdwatchers. Today, Tansa stands as a promising stop to catch a glimpse of the endangered Forest Owlet. So much so, that every weekend a bird watching enthusiast can be seen near Kuaripada village anxiously waiting to hear the call 'Kuhu'. Not surprisingly, we started from the same place, only with the intent to stay a little longer.

We planned on spending a few days at Kuaripada, hoping to see Forest Owlet and obtain some habitat data. The only good place to stay at Kuaripada is the forest department protection hut which is basically a hall with huge open windows on all four sides. We completed the formalities for our stay and started moving towards our vehicle to unload the luggage. Suddenly; "Kuhu...Kuhu.." a Forest Owlet called from behind the lake at Kuaripada. Without losing a moment, we ran first to fetch our binoculars and then towards the direction of the call! "Kuhu.." came another as though mocking us and we ran even faster. In our excitement, we reached the spot at lightning speed. We searched the area with great enthusiasm but unfortunately could not spot the bird. Two things were clear, the owlets may call but spotting them would still be a great challenge and Tansa is way different from Toranmaal.

Later that evening, we moved slowly towards the hills again from where we heard the call the same morning. It was windy, yet warm. The clear blue sky almost looked like a reflection of the water from the Kuaripada lake. As we walked further up towards the peak of the hill, we decided to play the call to guide us to where the bird was. Within a fraction of a second of the playback, we heard the most melodious reply. "Kuhu" the bird called and we silently followed. After a vigorous search of 5-10 minutes, we finally saw our first Forest Owlet at Tansa on the first day itself! Soon we spotted another individual and our happiness was doubled. It did not occur to us to start descending down the hill, as we peacefully kept admiring the bird. As the sun started to burn the sky in

shades of red and gold moving into the horizon, we were filled with hope for our fieldwork as we watched the sunset.

In the next few days, we saw many more Forest Owlets. We started locating newer sites which were not reported by previous researchers. Whenever we 'discovered' such new sites our joy would overflow into a dance and hugs. In certain areas, we started spotting multiple Forest Owlets within a day. This exercise surely helped us train our eyes and ears for detecting the owlets. We always thought that it would not be difficult to spot a diurnal owl in broad daylight, but trust us, it's not so. At times, you can hear "kuhu" and just cannot spot the bird, and sometimes it is on the tree beside you and still, you would spot it only after it makes some movement.

The data collected through the present Forest Owlet project will definitely shed light on habitat requirements, population connectivity, and geographical range of the so far mysterious Forest Owlet. In our study, to date, Tansa has turned out to be a stronghold for Forest Owlet. Yet, an intriguing question is why did the Forest Owlet go undetected until 2014 in Tansa, a sanctuary which is so close to Mumbai, the city with highest human density in India? The Forest Owlet surely seems like a mystical entity. Just after its discovery in 1872, it literally disappeared for a century, making everyone think that the species is extinct. It was re-discovered in 1997 in Taloda Reserve Forest (near Toranmaal Reserved Forest), and in 2014 in Tansa. Amazingly, until four years back, we had no clue that it was living right under our noses. On talking to local people we realized that these mystical entities were there in Tansa all the time. It's no magic, perhaps we arrived late.

Correspondence - khanxenab@gmail.com



Jungle owlet © Kaushik Koli



Kuadipada Lake © Zainab Khan

Sentinels of the Saltpan

Niveditha R.K.

Saltpans are large flat areas where seawater is pumped and later slowly evaporated in artificially made basins of increasing salinity to produce sea salt, at artisanal or industrial scales. These large barren white crystal lands serve as a human modified habitat for our feathered friends. These artificial saltpans are used by several winter migrants and resident waders as foraging, roosting and breeding grounds.

Puthalam Saltpan, located in the Manakudy Estuary, is one among those saltpans in the Southwest coast of Kanyakumari district and is located between 08° 04' N latitude and 77° 26' E longitude. It is in the confluence of Pazhayar river that emerges from the Western Ghats. This region receives ample rainfall from both South-West and North-East monsoon keeping the saltpan active during the summer and pre-monsoon. Fishing nets come in action during the post-monsoon.

I got a chance to explore this area as a part of the IBA assessment. I visited the saltpans during the summer of 2018. Every morning starts with the rise of the glowing sun. The rays of sunlight break through the orange painted sky and a flock of Red-naped Ibis pass my view reminding me of the poetic lines,

“Rise, brothers, rise; the wakening skies pray to the morning light,
The wind lies asleep in the arms of the dawn like a child that has cried all night.
Come, let us gather our nets from the shore and set our catamarans free,
To capture the leaping wealth of the tide, for we are the kings of the sea”

- Sarojini Naidu (Coramandel Fishers)

The splashing sunlight on the water reflected on a colony of Greater-crested Terns that were preening and were gearing up for a fishing breakfast. Few Common Redshanks with thin orange-red legs were running in between the terns. I moved forward through the sand bunds that lined the saltpan, where a little bird was running and hiding beyond the bund. It was a Little-ringed Plover. Suddenly a raptor came hovering over the waters. Initially I could not see it as my sight was against the sun. Gradually it moved around and I could notice a greyish black necklace like patch on its neck which best identifies the raptor as an Osprey. There was an array of some Lesser Sand Plovers. A Common Sandpiper was seen running here and there trilling the mud. Some Ruddy Turnstones were scouring the stones. No wonder they got the name, because they literally turn small stones in search of food. A flock of Greater Flamingos landed in one of the ponds. The pinkish hues on the lagoon’s water and the shrieks of these birds are an everyday tranquil delight in the saltpan.

Behind all these scenes there was a continuous raucous call “kik-kik-kik-kik” from a long carmine-pink legged bird, the Black-winged Stilt. An unmistakable wader with a white body and black glossed dark green wings with a thin pointed straight and black bill. Atleast five or more of these slender birds can be seen in all the ponds in the saltpan. They are the alarms of the saltpan. They give incessant calls to alert all birds when they see an outsider entering their territory. So, I call them, “Sentinels of the Saltpan”.

I stepped ahead and I noticed the fight of three Black-winged Stilts with a Black Kite. I moved closer and I could find a nest with three eggs on the mud bank. These birds show a very good level of parental caring. I could locate



Nest on the mud bank



Nest on the grass meadow

one more nest nearby with a broken egg, which might have been predated by the Black kite.

I monitored the nests from a distance in the following days. The eggs were incubated by one of the parent bird and the other one will be foraging nearby, guarding the nest. The nest-site selection had a noticeable variation. Some birds build the nest on the mud banks, some build them on the small islands inside the salt pans and some laid the eggs on shallow depressions in the grass. The nests were largely made of sticks and shells.

After a month I revisited the area and I was able to locate few chicks. The chicks were seen near where the nests were built. The south-west monsoon had increased the water level and some of the nests in the mud banks had started sinking. Surprisingly the birds were not ready to give up. I noticed a very rare behaviour of how far a bird can go to safeguard its nest. The bird which sat on the egg took the shells that scattered on the submerged mud bank around nest and then layered it on the sides and top to protect the drowning nest. This really triggered the curiosity to know ‘what a bird brain really is?’

But we are losing our shorebirds. Forty percent of the world’s shorebirds are facing a decline in population. Traditional salt pans support a wide range of bird species during the time of migration. Due to shrinkage in the naturally available habitat, birds have adapted to substitutes like these. Birds love these salt pans. Cycling nutrients, salt-loving vegetations, fish, gravel beds for nesting, and different basins with varying water level holds space for different leg and bill lengths. But now a shift away in the salt pan practices is becoming a great threat. Hence it is the need of the hour to preserve such crucial habitats to save our bird species and at the same time for us to think about becoming the sentinels of the salt pans.

“A link between culture and nature; food
All that need is a Sprinkle of Passion (and Salt)”

- Juan Martins

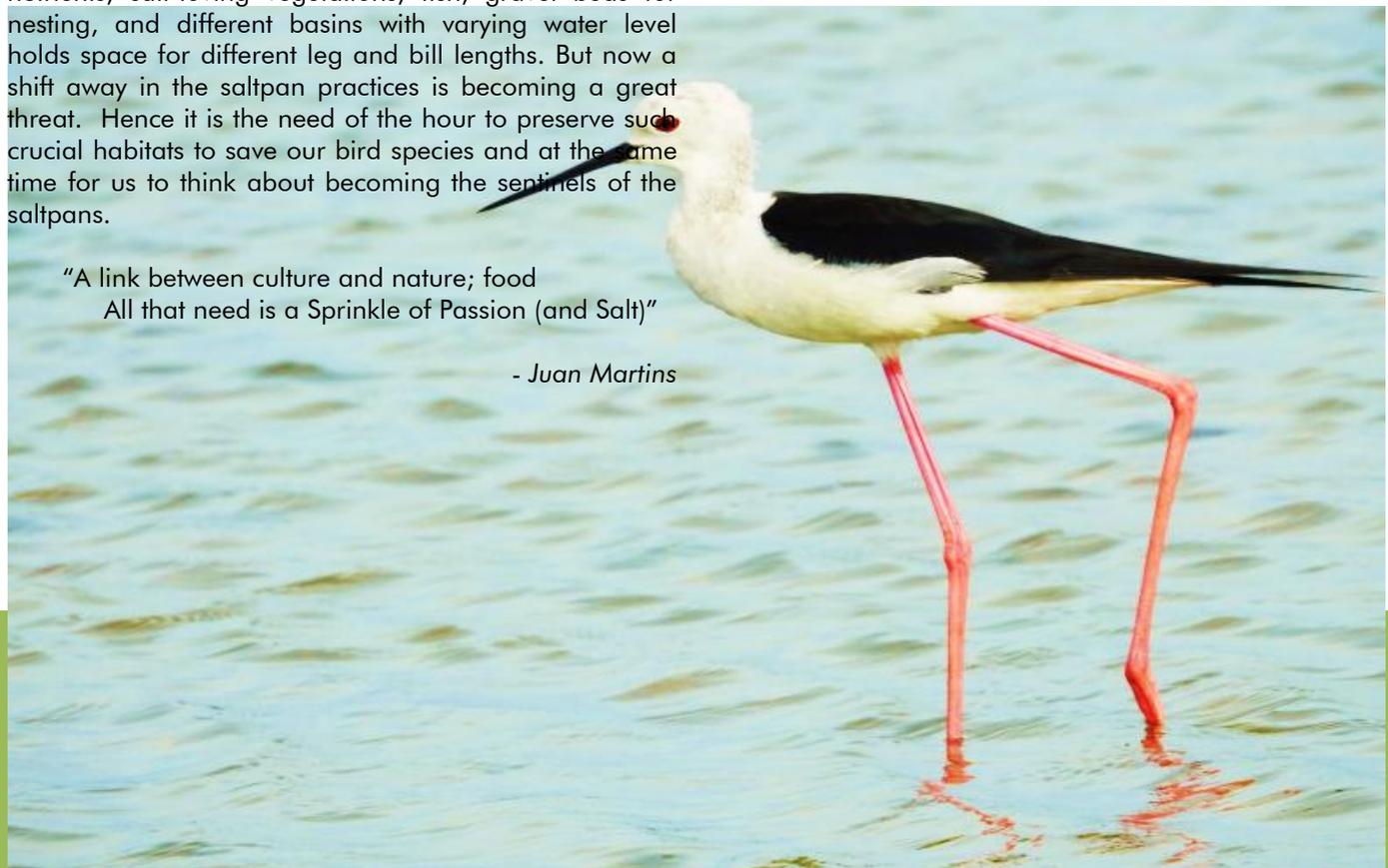


Drowning Nest with Bird



Black-winged Stilt Chicks

Correspondence - niverkt@gmail.com



We have a 'Biodiversity Engineer' in SACON campus!

Dhanusha Kawalkar

It was on 21st December that I joined SACON and during our nature trail session we were all taken to the waterhole near the staff quarters. Earlier being a mammal person, I observed the indirect signs of mammals in the SACON campus. I was amazed to notice the porcupine droppings along the trails and then thought of installing a camera trap near the waterhole to confirm the presence of porcupines (*Hystrix indica*) on the campus. After deploying the camera trap, on 23rd January at 4:35 am, camera trap recorded the presence of porcupine.

Porcupine belongs to the largest mammalian class of Rodentia. The Porcupines are classified into two groups, new and old-world porcupines with an estimated fifteen and eleven species in each category respectively. It is a protected species in India under Schedule II and IV of Wildlife Protection Act, 1972. Found in diversified habitats from high altitude to driest semi-arid regions in India. Hence, being a habitat generalist and nocturnal forager, the Indian crested porcupine is commonly referred to as 'Biodiversity engineer' of the ecosystem. The digs created by porcupine acts as microhabitats and helps in the forest growth. On an average the length of the body of the Porcupine ranges 70-90 cm the tail adding up to 8-10 cm and body covering quills (brown-black color) made up of alpha keratin which acts as a self-defense for the animal. They are known to mate in January- February with approximately 118-240 days of gestation period and gives birth to 2-4 young ones in a brood and can produce two litter in a year. Glad to have ecological engineers around!

Correspondence – dhanushakawalkar@gmail.com



Porcupine at the waterhole in SACON campus

Anthropology in Wildlife

Andrew Raja Marak

When I joined SACON it was totally a different environment for me since everything was new to me as I am from Anthropology discipline. As the time flew, I was excited and eager to learn how the ecological researches are and to know more about the environment, animals and birds. After interacting with the faculty members and researchers, I understood how it is different from their perspective and mine. In Anthropology we have different branches and sub-disciplines, one of them is Social-Cultural Anthropology and under this branch we have a sub-field called Ecological Anthropology. In Ecological Anthropology, we focus upon the complex relations between people and their environment. In general sense, ecological anthropology provides materialistic explanation to human society and culture as products of adaptation to given environmental conditions.

Earlier in my field work I mostly dealt with the tribal community and their culture, their diet, as it is related to some religious believes. After joining SACON, I learned to deal with animals and birds and getting exposed to their behavior. In the Project that I am working, "Characterization of Community Reserves and Assessment of their Conservation Value in Meghalaya", I am intend to assess how the people benefit from the community reserves in terms of non-timber forest products (NTFP) like medicinal plants, fruits, vegetables and honey etc. Meghalaya is a state where most of the lands and natural reserves are owned by the tribal people and managed by the Autonomous District Councils (ADC). This is where an anthropologist plays an important role in understanding the relationship between the local community and the environment.

Correspondence – andrewrajamarak024@gmail.com



Interacting with Garo tribes in Meghalaya

Visit of P.G. Diploma Officer Trainees from Wildlife Institute of India

P.G Diploma Course trainees (10 participants) from Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun visited SACON on 1st June 2018 as part of their Management Plan exercise. A meeting with the officer trainees followed by discussion on Management Plan exercise was held at SACON with participation of faculty members of SACON.



Completion of construction of PG Class Room and Central Instrumentation Laboratory on SACON campus.

SACON has completed the construction of PG Class Room and Central Instrumentation Laboratory on the campus. The construction work was carried out by a non-profit organization, recognized by the Govt. of Kerala; M/s Centre of Science and Technology for Rural Development, Thrissur.



Visit of State Forest Service officers from CASFOS, Coimbatore

Twenty Two State Forest Service officers from CASFOS, Coimbatore visited SACON on 31st May 2018 as a part of Wildlife Management Workshop. A meeting with the officer trainees followed by discussion on Wildlife Management was held at SACON with participation of faculty members of SACON.



Talk by Dibyendu Mandal on “Ecology of Striped Hyena at Sariska Tiger Reserve, Rajasthan”

Mr. Dibyendu Mandal, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun visited SACON in April 2018. During his visit, he presented his research on ecology of striped hyena in Sariska Tiger Reserve, Rajasthan. The talk was followed by an interactive session with research scholars of SACON.



Correspondence – dibyendu86@gmail.com



Editorial Board

Dr. Krishnendu Mondal, Dr. T. Ramesh & Mr. R. Jayakumar

Views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Editors or the Sálím Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History

सालिम अली पक्षिविज्ञान एवं प्रकृतिविज्ञान केन्द्र

Sálím Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History

A Centre of Excellence under Ministry of Environment,
Forest and Climate Change, Govt. of India

आनैकट्टी, कोयम्बतूर - 641 108

Anaikatty (Post), Coimbatore – 641 108

Tamil Nadu, INDIA

Tele: +91 - 422-2203100, 109; Fax: +91 – 422 – 2657088

Email: salimali@sacon.in, salimalicentre@gmail.com; Website: www.sacon.in



The SACON Newsletter is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-Non Commercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International License

April - June 2018

Printed & Published by the Director, Sálím Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History,
P.O Anaikatty, Coimbatore– 641 108, Tamil Nadu, India.