



PTCF

Vision

To enhance Participatory Forest Management through multi stakeholders participation in Periyar Tiger Reserve and adjoining landscape consistent with the State and National Legislations.

Mission

- To safeguard the Western Ghats
- To facilitate Environmental, Social, Economic, Cultural, Educational and Aesthetic aspects of Periyar Tiger Reserve and adjoining Landscapes
- To support Ecodevelopment, Nature Education, Research, Ecotourism and Protection both technically and financially.

Editorial

Forests, often referred to as the lungs of our planet, play a crucial role in sustaining life on Earth. However, rampant deforestation, climate change, and unsustainable practices pose significant threats to these vital ecosystems. To address these challenges, a holistic approach that integrates forest conservation, participatory forest management, and the assessment of ecosystem services is imperative. Sustainable forest management practices are essential to enhance carbon sequestration capabilities. Forests play a vital role in maintaining water availability, regulating precipitation, and preventing soil erosion. Empowering local communities in forest management and involving in decision making enhances conservation outcomes. Periyar Tiger Reserve is immensely known for its picturesque, natural beauty along with its rich, varied floral and faunal wealth. The biological diversity of forest ecosystem not only support the environment but also provides livelihoods of dependent communities. The participatory forest management and approaches initiated in Periyar made novel outlook in wildlife management. PTR management developed alternative livelihoods to reduce dependency on forest resources in an unsustainable manner. The complexities of forest management and the humongous ecosystem services offered makes the healthy, comprehensive and collaborative conservation model in Periyar a need of the hour!

NATURE CAMP FOR PANCHAYATH PRESIDENT FOR WAYANAD DISTRICTS

A Three-day Nature Camp was organized for the Panchayath Presidents of Wayanad District from 25-11-2023 to 27-11-2023. During the visit, participants were exposed to various activities including boating, trekking, interaction with tribal EDC members, VDVK units. Successful innovations like Real time monitoring, multiple facets of Tiger Ecology and Socio-economic developments



achieved through Ecodevelopment programs initiated in Periyar Tiger Reserve was also presented to the delegates. Dr. Patil Suyog Subhash Rao IFS, Deputy Director, Periyar East Division inaugurated the nature camp. Sri. Suhyb P.J., Assistant Field Director, Periyar Tiger Reserve, Smt. Shajna Karim, DFO, South Wayanad Division, Sri. Abdul Samath, Range Officer, Chethalath Range, Sri. Pradeep Kumar, President of Coordination Committee of Panchayath Presidents of Wayanad District were also present on occasion and have extended their felicitations. Sri. Ramesh Babu, Conservation Biologist, PTCF, Sri. Sunil C.G., Assistant Nature Education Officer, PTCF, Sri. Cibu V., Section Forest Officer and Sri. V.C. Sebastian, Section Forest Officer, Periyar East Division handled the sessions. A total of 25 Panchayat Presidents from Wayanad District participated in the program.

Visit of Environmental Economist

In order to understand the cultural and sacred aspect of indigenous Tribal communities with forest, Dr. Kamaljith Sangha, Environmental Economist, Charles Darwin University, Australia made a preliminary visit at Periyar Tiger Reserve from 19-12-2023 to 20-12-2023. During the visit, Dr. Kamaljith interacted with Deputy Director, Periyar East Division, tribal communities and Professionals of PTCF. An interaction was arranged with the Tribal communities of Periyar Tiger Reserve at Community hall, Mannakkudy Tribal settlement.



Periyar Tiger Reserve & Periyar Tiger Conservation Foundation wishes all a great, greener New Year 2024!!



FMD VACCINATION



As a part of NADCP, State Animal Husbandry Department carried out vaccination to the cattle in the fringes of Periyar Tiger Reserve. The vaccination drive was jointly conducted with the Veterinary Wing of Periyar Tiger Reserve. The vaccination was conducted to prevent Foot and Mouth disease spread from cattle to wild animals. During the vaccination campaign the fringe area cattle owners of Kumily Grama Panchayat including Graziers Ecodevelopment committee extended cooperation and support.



Photo documentation along the traditional route to Sabarimala

A photo documentation of various pilgrim facilities offered to pilgrims was carried out along the Sathram-Uppupara- Sannidhanam-Pamaba traditional route. Checking of plastic items at entry point at Sathram, providing medicated drinking water at various points, providing food and snacks under Forest Development Agency (FDA) shop at Uppupara, establishing lemon juice sales outlet and watermelon sales outlet at



Kazhuthakkuzhy, deployment of snake rescue teams, establishment of 24x7 hours functional Forest Control Room at Pamba and setting up of Ecoshops are some of the key activities offered to pilgrims along the Sathram-Sannidhanam- Pamba tradition route.



WEED MAPPING IN PTR



A survey of exotic weeds was carried out in Periyar Tiger Reserve. Initially Thekkady and Vallakkadavu Ranges were sampled for exotic weed mapping. The exercise was conducted from 18.12.23 to 20.12.23 by PTCF, in collaboration with Kerala Agriculture University and College of Forestry, Thrissur. The sampling was carried out in grids using vegetation plots and data were recorded systematically with active participation of frontline staff and students. The students were oriented to wildlife population estimation techniques and activities of Periyar Tiger Reserve. The survey was successfully completed with the technical support from Sri. Aneesh K.S., Asst. Professor, Forestry College, Mannuthy, Sri. Ramesh Babu, Conservation Biologist and Sri. S. Veeramani, GIS Specialist, PTCF.



NEWS IN FOCUS

Tiger sighting at 3640 metre from MSL

The camera trap deployed jointly by Forest department of Sikkim and BNHS revealed the picture of a tiger sighting at an altitude of 3640 metre (11942 Feet) from the Sea level which is a first report in India. This unique tiger sighting was at the hilly mountain range of the Panka loka Wildlife Sanctuary in Sikkim.

Rediscovery of Echidna after 60 years

A recent rediscovery of Echidna (*Attenburus long beaked echidna*) was found at Cyclops mountain ranges of Indonesia. Researchers from Oxford University conducted a study during June and July and found camera images of Echidna using remote cameras. Distinguished biologist Mr. James Kepta identified Echnida during the research studies. Echindas are the egg laying Mammal evolved 20 million years ago from mammals.

Forest Department installs Real-time warning system on Sathram route

The Kerala Forest Department installs Real Time warning system through the Sathram-Pullumedu-Sannidhanam route where there is heavy rush of pilgrims during the season. This warning system allows monitoring of pilgrim movements and also wildlife activity if any along the route which will help Rapid Response Team and Elephant squad to prevent conflict.

Upcoming Events

- Vembanadu Wetland Bird Survey
- Capacity enhancement training for EDC members
- Curriculum workshop for teachers
- Impact monitoring of Eco-restoration activities
- Inter-state coordination committee meeting
- Human-wildlife conflict analysis - Mankulam Division
- Artificial Intelligence based Tiger identification and tracking Project discussion with Government Engineering College, Idukki
- Camera Trap Exercise at Periyar Range
- Sabarimala Impact study



EXPOSURE VISIT OF FOREST OFFICIALS TO PERIYAR TIGER RESERVE

A series of exposure visit programme were conducted at Periyar Tiger Reserve for visiting Forest Officials of neighbouring states and training institutes. During the visit, the officers have been given training to various aspects of wildlife managements techniques, GIS techniques and field visit. Dr. Patil Suyog Subhash Rao IFS, Deputy Director, Periyar East Division, Sri. Suhyb P.J., Asst. Field Director, Periyar Tiger Reserve and professionals of Periyar Tiger Conservation Foundation interacted with the delegates.

Sl. No.	Name of the team	Date
1	RFO trainees from Maharashtra	1.12.2023 - 2.12.2023
2	RFO trainees from Advanced Institute of Wildlife Conservation (AIWC), Tamil Nadu	3.12.2023 - 5.12.2023
3	RFO trainees from KFA, Dharward, Karnataka	12.12.2023 - 13.12.2023
4	RFO trainees from Uttarakhand	12.12.2023
4	ACF trainees from Central Academy for State Forest Service(CASFOS) Burnihat, Assam	12.12.2023 - 14.12.2023
5	RFO trainees from Gujarat	13.12.2023 - 15.12.2023



GREEN PANORAMA

Green panorama movies refer to a genre of films that prominently feature environmental themes, sustainability, and the beauty of nature. These movies often showcase breathtaking landscapes, diverse ecosystems, and the importance of preserving the planet for future generations. The term "green panorama" underscores the focus on environmentally conscious storytelling, shedding light on issues such as climate change, deforestation, and the delicate balance of ecosystems. These films aim to raise awareness about the fragility of the Earth's environment and inspire audiences to take positive actions towards conservation and sustainable living. By immersing viewers in the awe-inspiring beauty of nature and the interconnectedness of all living things, green panorama movies serve as a powerful medium for environmental education and advocacy, encouraging a deeper appreciation for the natural world and a collective responsibility to protect it. Here are some must-see environmental films.

Avatar (2009)

James Cameron's film Avatar has centered discussions on themes like the conflict between modern human and nature, and the film's treatment of imperialism, racism, militarism and patriotism, corporate greed, property rights, spirituality and religion.

The Lorax (2012)

A 12-year-old boy living in artificial city searches for real tree that will enable him to win the affection of the girl of his dreams. To find it he must discover story of Lorax, the grumpy but charming creature who helps him to fight to protect his world.

Erin Brockovich (2000)

Erin is an unemployed single mother of three. She finds it difficult to find a job. Later she becomes a legal assistant and almost single-handedly brings down a California Power Company i.e. multibillion dollar company accused of polluting city's water supply.

A Civil Action (1998)

Jan Agrees to represent eight families whose children died from leukaemia after two large industries leaked harmful chemicals into the water supply of Woburn. This case could mean financial and career suicidal for him.

San Andreas (2015)

In San Andreas, California is experiencing an earthquake that goes on record easily the biggest earthquake in history. Dwayne Johnson plays Ray Gaines, A Helicopter rescue pilot, who trying to find his daughter. Rays ex-wife is forced to turn to ray for help. Together they journey to save their daughter.

WALL-E (2008)

In the distant future, a small waste-collecting robot living with pet cockroach, carelessly embarks on a space journey that will ultimately decide fate of mankind.

Compiled by:

Sri. MS Suresh, Dy. Labour Officer, Labour Department, Peermade

Outreach programmes

Outreach programmes were organized at Government UP School, Palooravu, Mundakkayam on 07.12.2023 and for National Service Scheme volunteers of St. Antonys' College, Peruvanthanam on 27.12.2023. Sri. Sunil C.G., Asst. Nature Education Officer, PTCF handled the sessions. A total of 112 students participated the programmes.



Wild Gallery

Glimpses from Periyar Tiger Reserve

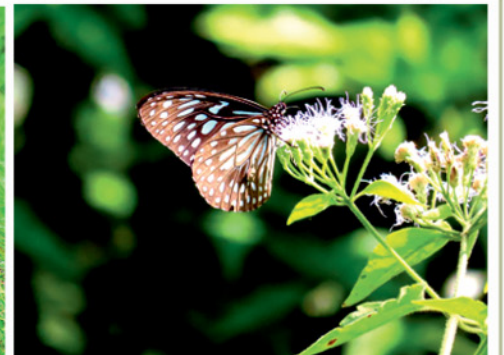
Zooooom to focus 



Sri. Sreeraj, BFO, Thekkady Range



Sri. Vishnu, FW(SR), Vallakkadavu Range



Smt. Bismi Wills, BFO, Vallakkadavu Range



25TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF VANCHIVAYAL ECODEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The 25th Anniversary celebration of Vanchivayal Ecodevelopment Committee (EDC) was organised at Community Hall, Vanchivayal Tribal settlement on 5-12-2023. Sri. Rudolf Wooler, President, Ecoland, Germany was the Chief Dignitary of the event. Sri. Suhyb P.J., Assistant Field Director, Periyar Tiger Reserve inaugurated the programme. Sri. Ajayaghosh, Range Forest Officer, Vallakkadavu Range, Sri. Akhil Babu, Range Forest Officer, Periyar Range, Sri. Xavier, Range Forest Officer, Ecodevelopment Range, Sri. Hyhrose Meeran, representative of Periyar East Forest Development Agency, Chairmen of EDCs of Vallakkadavu Range, Forest officials were present on the occasion. EDC members from tribal settlements, selected for employment in various categories of State Government were congratulated as part of the program. A cultural event was performed by students from Govt. Tribal School, Vallakkadavu and childrens from Vanchivayal Tribal settlement in connection with the event.



CAMERA TRAP TRAINING



The implementation of Phase IV monitoring of tigers has been initiated in Periyar Tiger Reserve. Training was conducted to the frontline staff of Thekkady and Vallakkadavu Range on 06.12.2023. About 50 frontline staff were trained in techniques of camera trap operation and deployment in field. The training was inaugurated by Sri. Suhyb P.J., Assistant Field Director, Periyar Tiger Reserve. The training was given by Tiger Cell team of PTCF. The camera traps and accessories were issued to the sections for deployment in the field.



TRAINING FOR DEPUTY RANGE FOREST OFFICERS



Training for Deputy Range Forest Officer trainees was conducted at IHRD Thiruvananthapuram on 13.12.2023. The training was inaugurated by Sri. Santosh Kumar, Assistant Conservator of Forest and welcome address was delivered by Sri. Udayasooryan, Range Forest Officer. The training session and field demonstration of camera trap method and MSTripes Patrol application was done by Sri. M. Ramesh Babu, Conservation Biologist and Sri. Rahul and Sri. B. Karthik, Tiger Monitoring Assistants of PTCF. A total of 18 trainees attended the session. The training had both indoor and outdoor sessions on field techniques.



MSTripES - PATROL REVIEW

A survey of exotic weeds was carried out in Periyar Tiger Reserve. Initially Thekkady and Vallakkadavu Ranges were sampled for exotic weed mapping. The exercise was conducted from 18.12.23 to 20.12.23 by PTCF jointly in collaboration with Kerala Agriculture University and College of Forestry, Thrissur. The training session and field demonstration of Avena application was done by Sri. S. Veeramani, GIS specialist, Sri Ramesh Babu, Conservation Biologist and Sri. B. Karthik, Tiger Monitoring Assistant of PTCF. The sampling was carried out in grids using vegetation plots and data were recorded systematically with active participation of frontline staff and students. The students were exposed to wildlife population techniques and activities of Periyar Tiger Reserve as an orientation.



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PERIYAR TIGER CONSERVATION FOUNDATION

PERIYAR TIGER RESERVE

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