



(This photo was clicked during the Wildflower Walk at Kharghar Valley)

**Activity Report  
(September 2018- January 2019)**



## **iNaturewatch Foundation Activity Report (Sep 2018- Jan 2019)**

### **1. SUMMARY**

iNaturewatch Foundation Activity Report is summarizing the activities conducted by the Foundation from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2018 to 15<sup>th</sup> January 2019. We strive to fulfill the organization's aim of developing environmentally sensitive citizens by engaging participants of different age groups. iNaturewatch had conducted a diverse range of innovative activities including projects, programs and online courses. Proposal for setting up butterfly habitats at the Yusuf Meharally Center, Karnala and Special Children of Divya Vidyalay, Jawahar were approved by DCB bank, following which the plantation for these gardens was done in September and October 2018. To attract and involve local residents to conserve the Nizampet Lake, 'Free Bird Walks' were conducted around the Nizampet Lake, Hyderabad. Altogether, iNaturewatch Foundation conducted 11 walks, one camps, eight talks and one workshop during this said period. We have successfully reached out to 768 people within these four months. Presently we are working on 2 projects of developing butterfly habitats with the sponsorship from the DCB Bank.

This report summarizes the activities conducted by the Foundation from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2018 to 15<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

### **2. PROJECTS**

#### **2.1 Ongoing Projects (DCB Bank Projects)**

Yearlong projects of establishing butterfly habitats at the Yusuf Meharally Centre and Divya Vidyalaya was supported by DCB Bank as a part of their CSR initiative. The project is implemented by Ladybird Environmental Consulting LLP in collaboration with iNaturewatch Foundation.

- **Development of Butterfly Habitat at the Divya Vidyalaya, Jawahar**

We designed the layout of the area in September and plantation was done by 65 employees of the DCB Bank along with school students, who helped in setting up this butterfly habitat by planting 3000 saplings in the demarcated area around the school on 12<sup>th</sup> of October 2018. At present, the plants are growing well, and many plants have started flowering too.



- **Development of Butterfly Habitat at the Yusuf Meharally Centre, Tara**

In an area of 5000 sq. ft. , 1000 saplings were planted to create a butterfly habitat at the Yusuf Meherali Center, Tara by 38 employees of the DCB Bank on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2018. Now this place has transformed into a beautiful butterfly habitat. And to the volunteers' surprise, butterflies soon started laying eggs after their favourite host plants were planted. On 11<sup>th</sup> January 2019, we conducted an employee engagement programme for the DCB bank volunteers with the various activities. All the employees worked hard and enjoyed the activities.



## 2.2. Shorekeepers of Mumbai- Mangrove awareness program

In collaboration with United Way Mumbai, free mangrove awareness programmes were conducted including talks and walks. Students were made aware about the mangroves ecosystem while explaining them about the importance of mangroves and the need to protect them.

- **Free Mangrove Walk for SIES College, Sion**

On 15<sup>th</sup> January 2019 we conducted a free mangrove walk for the students of SIES College, Sion at Talawe Wetland, Seawoods. The walk was conducted by Ms. Preeti Dalvi and Ms. Wilma D'cunha. All the 21 participants enjoyed the mangrove walk and had a good interactive learning experience.



## 3. Completed Projects (Butterfly Habitat Development for Symbiosis University, Pune)

The Symbiosis International University had approached us for developing butterfly habitats at their campus. Mr. Isaac Kehimkar and Dr. V. Shubhalaxmi visited the Symbiosis International University, Pune for the first site survey and selected 3 different sites for creating butterfly habitats. Also,

provided the plant list and the layout required to set up the butterfly habitats. A completion report of project work has been submitted. The project began in July 2018 and concluded in October 2018.

#### **4. PROGRAMMES (See Annexure 1)**

**4.1 Camps:** We conducted single camp, the details are given below:

- **17<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup> November 2018: Nature Camp at Prani Sanctuary, Bengaluru**

Our unique camp began on Saturday afternoon at the Prani Sanctuary, Bengaluru. All the 14 enthusiastic participants including kids and grown-ups went on a nature trail at the Prani Sanctuary along with the group leader, Mr. Madhusudhan Shukla. The participants found the camp informative with new learning experiences. The camp concluded on Sunday afternoon with the beautiful group picture.



**4.2 Workshops:** We conducted one workshop, the details are given below:

- **16<sup>th</sup> December 2018: Workshop on Kitchen Gardening at Kharghar, Navi Mumbai**

This workshop was attended by 10 participants. They enjoyed learning the basic techniques of the kitchen gardening. Workshop began with a presentation to explain the process, and was followed by practical hands-on experience in compost making, planter making and potting of saplings.



**4.3 Mumbai Walks:** We conducted eight walks, the details are given below:

- **8<sup>th</sup> September 2018: Nature Trail at Nagala for KPMG**

A nature trail was conducted for the college students and this activity was sponsored by KPMG corporate. In all 48 participants, both students and volunteers took part in this trail. The trail was conducted by Dr. Ketki Marthak and Ms. Preeti Dalvi.



- **30<sup>th</sup> Sep 2018: Wildflower Walk at Kharghar Valley**

A group of 15 nature enthusiasts from all age groups joined us on a sunny trail to Kharghar Valley. The group was led by Mr. Isaac Kehimkar and Dr. Shubhalaxmi. We got to see around 20 species of wildflowers most of which were seasonal. The group learnt about the association of flower colour, size and shape with that of their pollinators.



- **30<sup>th</sup> September 2018: Nature Trail at Bhandup Pumping Station for Udaan India Foundation**

On 30<sup>th</sup> September 2018, we conducted nature trail for students of Udaan India Foundation. The trail was conducted by Preeti Dalvi and Wilma D’Cunha. Students learned about the mangroves and their importance in our day to day life.



- **2<sup>nd</sup> October 2018: Wildflowers Walk for Kilbilahat Group**

A group of 31 students accompanied by their teachers joined us on a flowery trail at Kharghar Valley which was led by Dr. Shubhalaxmi and Mr. Isaac Kehimkar. Students got enchanted with the plant and animal life they witnessed along the route.



- **21<sup>st</sup> October 2018: Butterflying in Karnala Bird Sanctuary**

A group of 15 ventured on a hidden trail along the foothills of the Karnala forest. The beauty of this trail was that this was not on the usual tourist route, so the group had the entire forest to themselves. This hidden trail provided an array of sightings from tree frogs to butterfly eggs.



- **18<sup>th</sup> November 2018: Bird Walk at Bhandup Pumping Station**

We conducted 'Birdwalk' at the Bhandup Pumping station; one of the famous birding spots near Mumbai. Our 24 participants enjoyed the walk along with the Dr. Ketki Marthak's bird stories. Participants learnt new things about birds and their habitat. While returning from the trail all the enthusiast participants started spotting the birds and identifying them.



- **2<sup>nd</sup> December 2018: Bird Watching in Kharghar Mangroves**

Early morning all the 14 participants were set for the bird watching behind Kharghar Railway Station with Mr. Yogesh Chavan and Ms Preeti Dalvi. A good lot of bird activity was seen during the walk. Within two hours of the trail, we spotted around 42 different bird species including grassland birds and water birds. Besides the bird watching, we also observed the different mangrove species.



- **5<sup>th</sup> December 2018: Flamingo Boat Ride**

We conducted a flamingo boat ride for a private group. The event was conducted by Ms Preeti Dalvi. First, we visited the Mangrove Interpretation Center followed by a mangrove walk, and finally we took a boat ride to see flamingos. We saw thousands of flamingos along with other migratory birds like seagulls, pied avocet, terns and lot more.



**4.4 Bangalore Walks:** We conducted two walks, the details are given below:

- **23<sup>rd</sup> September 2018: Butterfly Walk at Jarkhabande Tree Park**

We conducted a butterfly walk at Jarakbande Kaval Forest for the 11 participants. The walk was led by Mr. Madhusudhan Shukla. The walk began at 8.00 am and ended at 10.00 am. The participants enjoyed this informative walk.



- **28<sup>th</sup> October 2018: Butterfly Count with Butterfly man in Bangalore**

A small group of butterfly lovers met on a bright morning at Jarakbande Tree Park. The nature trail was conducted along newly developed pathway around the tree park. A group of tiger butterflies were seen seeking alkaloids from damaged rattlepod plants. The group got to witness egg laying by Emigrants and saw caterpillar of Gull on Capparis plants.



#### **4.5. Hyderabad Events:** We conducted two walks, the details are given below:

We begun our activities in Hyderabad as Ladybird Environmental Consulting is working on the rehabilitation and revival of Nizampet Lake. The project aims to enhance the lake ecology through plantation, biodiversity surveys, community engagement and education. As a part of community engagement, we are conducting free bird walk to spread the environmental awareness among the local residents of Hyderabad. During the walk, participants also learnt about the importance of the lake as being a source of freshwater.

- **28<sup>th</sup> October 2018: Free Bird Walk at Nizampet Lake, Hyderabad**

We conducted a free bird walk on Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup> October 2018. The walk was attended by 10 bird enthusiasts. The walk was led by the local resident, Mr. Prasad who is an avid birder as well as a photographer.



- **2<sup>nd</sup> December 2018: Free Bird Walk at Nizampet Lake, Hyderabad**

We conducted a second free bird walk at Nizampet Lake, Hyderabad which was led by Mr. Prasad. The lake is also called as Shri Ramunikunta Lake. The walk was attended by 12 enthusiastic children and grown-ups





**4.6 Talks:** We conducted eight talks, the details are given below:

- **Zoohackathon Event at Jijamata Udyan (Rani Bagh), Byculla, Mumbai**

Dr. V. Shubhalaxmi was invited for a Zoohackathon event at Jijamata Udyan where she judged the IT solution technologies to stop wildlife crimes and deliver talk on pitching an idea. Zoohackathon was initiated by U.S. Consulate General, TRAFFIC India, and WWF-India



- **Celebrated Wildlife Week**

The nature club of Bhavan's College, Andheri had organized a 3-day festival titled 'Wild-Fi' during the National Wildlife Week. Dr. Shubhalaxmi and Mr. Isaac Kehimkar were invited for guest lectures at the Nature Club of Bhavan's College, Andheri during the National Wildlife Week



- **Lecture at ISOLA (Indian Society of Landscape Architects, Mumbai Chapter)**

ISOLA Mumbai (Indian Society of Landscape Architects, Mumbai Chapter) invited Mr. Isaac Kehimkar to give a lecture on 'Exploring India with Butterflies' during the sixth cycle of the S. D. Vaidya Memorial Lecture series held on Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup> November 2018 at the Noshir Talati Auditorium, Rachana Sansad's Academy of Architecture, Prabhadevi, Mumbai.



- **Talk for Refresher course of MHRD, Pune and KTHM College, Nashik**



Dr. Shubhalaxmi and Mr. Isaac Kehimkar were invited to give a talks during the Refresher Course organized by MHRD, Pune and KTHM college, Nasik. The topics covered during the full day event were; Diversity of Indian Butterflies and Moths, and Applied Lepidoptera (Development of Butterfly Gardens and Parks).

- **Lecture at NMMIS (Narsee Monjee Institute of Management Studies) institute**

Dr. Shubhalaxmi delivered lectures to MBA students of Social Entrepreneurship on CSR and Social Entrepreneurship. It was interactive and informative session for all the students.



- **Talk at Bharti Vidyapeeth, Pune**

Dr. Shubhalaxmi's conducted lecture for the M.Sc. students of Environmental Sciences and Wildlife Conservation on social entrepreneurship on the topic 'Role of Butterfly Parks and Establishment of a Social Enterprise'.



- **Talks at FERC and VEAB, Goa**

Mr. Isaac Kehimkar was invited to preside at the Prakash Parva in Goa as the chief guest to honour a retired forest officer Mr. Salelkar organized by the Vivekanand Environment Awareness Brigade. Another talk delivered at the Foundation for Environmental Research and Conservation. This 5th Kasturi lecture received an overwhelming response for the Butterfly Man of India, Isaac Kehimkar who shared his journey from the Trans-Himalayas to the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.



- **Learning Session for Economics students from Queensland University, Brisbane**

Dr. V. Shubhalaxmi conducted the learning session on Social Enterprise for the 17 MBA and Economics students from Queensland University, Brisbane, Australia.



## 5. HONOURS



- **DCP Annual awards**

Mr. Isaac Kehimkar and Dr. Shubhalaxmi were invited by DCP Expedition Group during the DCP Annual Awards Night 2018 which was held on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2018 to felicitate the winners of the wildlife photography competition.

- **Award for Excellence by Think-Wildlife Awards**

On 28<sup>th</sup> December 2018, at Think Wildlife Awards event, Dr. Shubhalaxmi was awarded for Excellence in Entomology and Mr. Isaac Kehimkar received an award for Excellence in Lepidoptera Research.



## 6. MEDIA COVERAGE

- Our 'Wildflower Walk at Kharghar Valley' event was covered by HT on 27<sup>th</sup> September 2018.

### NATURE TRAIL ON SUNDAY

## Join the walk, smell the flowers at Kharghar

Padmja sinha  
→ [padmja.sinha@thehindu.com](mailto:padmja.sinha@thehindu.com)

**NAVIMUMBAI:** If you are a nature lover and photography enthusiast, here is an opportunity for you.

A wildflower walk has been organised on September 30 by a city-based NGO, iNature foundation, at Kharghar which will help the people discover the varieties of flower that bloom at this time.

Issac Kehimkar, environmentalist and director, iNature, said, "The wildflower blooms after the monsoon recedes and they could only be seen during the month of September."

"At Kharghar valley, we

**The idea behind the wild-flower walk is to generate awareness among the people about the nature's beauty and the need to protect them.**

ISSAC KEHIMKAR, environmentalist and director, iNature

come across many such flowers which are not seen at other places in Navi Mumbai," Kehimkar added.

In the two-hour walk from 8am to 10am, in the hillock near Kharghar valley, around 35 spe-

cies of flora are seen. The popular variety includes wild sesame, blue day glory, sophia, wild moon, coat buttons, croalaria and cockscomb.

"The idea behind the walk is to generate awareness among people about the nature's beauty and the need to protect them," said Kehimkar.

Yellow, purple, pink and white flowers are seen in patches and are a delight to the people's eye.

The wildflowers create a riot of colours as they bloom in the monsoon season.

"I visited Kaas plateau which is also known for wild flowers blooming, specially after monsoon. Some of these wild flowers

### THE EVENT

Date: September 30

Time: 8am-10am

Venue: Kharghar Valley Trail, Kharghar Driving Range, near golf course

For registration: visit [www.inaturewatch.org](http://www.inaturewatch.org)

Participation cost: ₹350 per head (free for children up to 5 years)

Contact number: 9987013144

are also seen at the Kharghar valley," said, Ravi Kant, 30, a Nerul resident and a nature enthusiast.

Northern Shoveller.

**Trail #3**

**OFF THE BEATEN PATH**

While places like Sanjay Gandhi National Park and Sewri are big with those who are interested in birding, one of the lesser-known spots is Bhandup Pumping Station. With its diverse landscapes — salt pans, grassland, mangroves, a creek and a lake — it is a delightful place for all nature lovers. Bonus: This diversity makes it the perfect spot for migratory birds. This trail has been organised by iNaturewatch Foundation.

**Birds to spot:** Purple Heron, Northern Pintail, Black-tailed Godwit, Rudy Shelduck, Plover, Whimbrel and Lesser Whistling Duck.

**WHERE:** Bhandup Pumping Station  
**WHEN:** Nov 18, 7 am **ENTRY:** Rs 300  
**LOG:** [www.inaturewatch.org](http://www.inaturewatch.org)

- Mumbai Mirror covered our event 'Birdwalk at Bhandup Pumping Station' on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2018

- Divya Bhaskar covered Avi Sabavala our Trustee and Vice-chairman's wildlife journey.




- Mumbai Mirror covered our kitchen gardening workshop on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2018

- Hindustan Times covered our event 'Bird Watching in Kharghar Mangroves' on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2018.



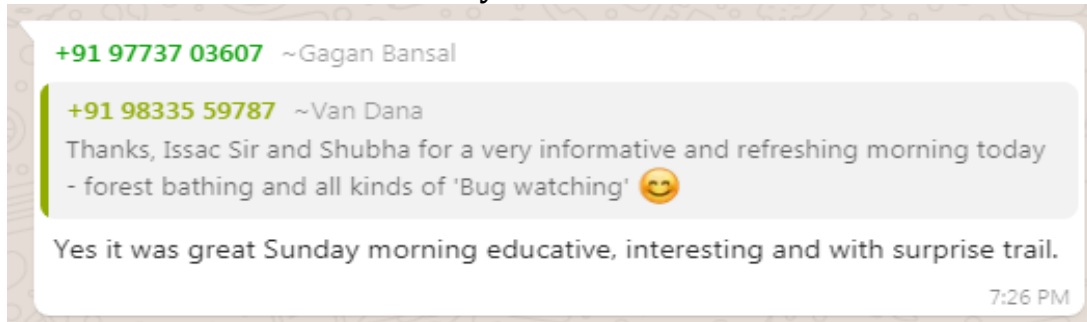
## 7. FEEDBACK

 **Prakash Nanavati** recommends INaturewatch Foundation. November 19, 2018 ·

Quite informative and useful for bird lovers.



## Butterfly Walk at Karnala



## Bird Walk at BPS

We share the same name. Truly beautiful today and worth it and Ms. Ketki went into a lot of detail for identification of different bird species and what separates one from the other. Was especially interested in the differentiation between various types of terns. Thank you so much, and please keep us informed of future trips.

10:20 PM

## 8. FINANCIAL STATUS (See Annexure 2)

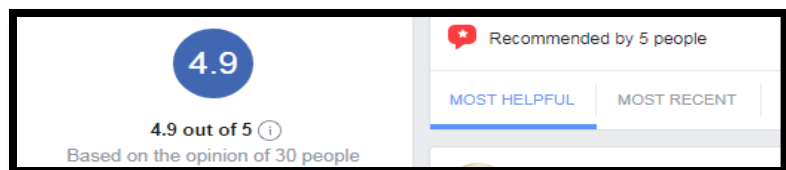
As per the Profit/Loss Statement we have received total income of Rs. 8,76,858.91, incurred expenditure of Rs. 9,62,115.49 and a loss as on 30 November 2018 is Rs. 85,256.58.

## 9. CONCLUSION

So far, we have been able to reach a varied audience including students, nature enthusiasts and citizens in three cities; Bangalore, Navi Mumbai and Mumbai. We recently started our free bird walks at Nizampet Lake, Hyderabad. By conducting nature walks in Bangalore, Navi Mumbai and Mumbai we successfully spread nature awareness. We are able to reach more schools and colleges through our sponsored project Shorekeepers of Mumbai. We received sponsorship for the butterfly gardening project from the DCB Bank, which becomes a turning point for iNaturewatch Foundation. In the upcoming year we are mainly targeting the school/college students and corporates in our nature awareness preprogramme.

Last year, we conducted a diverse range of innovative activities including projects, programmes, workshops, and online courses. We have successfully reached 1980 participants through our programmes (1280 General public including children, adults and senior citizen, 500 school students and 121 college students). We have started free lake awareness walks at the Nizampet lake in Hyderabad. Dr. V. Shubhalaxmi was selected to be a part of the international panel for 'National Moth Week', and was also honoured with Excellence in Entomology award by Think-wildlife. Mr. Isaac Kehimkar was elected with the highest number of votes in the election for the membership of the Governing Council of the Bombay Natural History Society. He was also honoured with 'Excellence in Lepidoptera Research' award by Think-wildlife.

Our online rating is 4.9 out of 5. We have 2.1K followers on Facebook 300 on Instagram and 80 on Twitter.



### Annexure 1: Programme Data

No.	Month	Name		Parti- cipants
1	Sep 2018	8 September 2018: Nature Trail at Nagala for KPMG	Walk	48
2		16 Sep: Zoohackathon at Rani Bagh	Talk	30
3		23 September 2018: Butterfly Walk at Jarkhabande Tree Park	Walk	11
4		30 Sep 2018: Wildflower Walk at Kharghar Valley	Walk	15
5	Oct 2018	4 October Talk at Bhavans College: World Wildlife Week	Talk	100
6		2 October 2018: Wildflowers Walk for Kilbilahat Group	Walk	31
7		Nature Trail @ Bhandup Pumping Station for Udaan India Foundation	Walk	40
8		21 October 2018: Butterflying in Karnala	Walk	15
9		28 October 2018: Butterfly Count with Butterfly man in Bangalore	Walk	8
10		28 October 2018: Free Bird Walk at Nizampet Lake, Hyderabad	Walk	10
11	Nov 2018	24 Nov: Guest lecture in ISOLA Mumbai	Talk	50
12		DCP Annual Awards Night 2018	Talk	50
13		18 November 2018: Bird Walk at Bhandup Pumping Station	Walk	24
14		17-18 November 2018: Nature Camp at Prani Sanctuary	Camp	14
15	Dec 2018	2 December 2018: Free Bird Walk at Nizampet Lake, Hyderabad	Walk	12
16		2 December 2018: Bird Watching in Kharghar Mangroves	Walk	14
17		5 December 2018: Flamingo Boat Ride	Walk	3
18		16 December 2018: Workshop on Kitchen Gardening	Workshop	10
19		25 Dec 2018: Refresher Course Talks at KHTM college	Talk	50
20	Jan 2019	11 January 2019: DCB Bank EEP at YMC	EEP	95
21		6 Jan 2019: Talk at Goa	Talk	50
22		12 Jan 2019: Talk at NMMIS institute	Talk	50
23		15 Jan 2019; Shorekeepers of Mumbai: Free Mangrove Walk	Walk	21
		Learning Session for Economics students from Queensland University, Brisbane	Talk	17
		Total		768

## Annexure 2: P/L Statement

### INatureWatch Foundation

#### Profit & Loss A/c

1-Apr-2018 to 30-Nov-2018

Particulars	1-Apr-2018 to 30-Nov-2018	Particulars	1-Apr-2018 to 30-Nov-2018
<b>Purchase Accounts</b>	<b>3,70,506.90</b>	<b>Sales Accounts</b>	<b>7,86,975.91</b>
<i>G Suite Cloud</i>	848.06	<i>Project Sales</i>	5,00,000.00
<i>Purchase of Services</i>	3,39,503.00	<i>Sales Account</i>	2,49,280.00
<i>Purchase of Web Merchant</i>	10,605.84	<i>Services</i>	31,545.91
<i>Purchases</i>	1,550.00	<i>Udaan India Foundation</i>	6,150.00
<i>Purchases of Tickets</i>	18,000.00		
<b>Direct Expenses</b>	<b>30,397.00</b>	<b>Direct Incomes</b>	<b>14,720.00</b>
<i>Programme Expense</i>	8,050.00	<i>Programme &amp; Course Fees</i>	(-)1,000.00
<i>ACCOMODATION KARNALA CAMP</i>	5,400.00	<i>Grant</i>	13,500.00
<i>FIELD KIT KARNALA CAMP</i>	3,635.00	<i>PROGRAMME FEE</i>	2,220.00
<i>FOOD AND BEVERAGES KARNALA CAMP</i>	7,166.00		
<i>HONORARIUM KARNALA CAMP</i>	4,000.00	<b>Indirect Incomes</b>	<b>75,163.00</b>
<i>MEDICINE KARNALA CAMP</i>	296.00	<i>Bank Interest</i>	2,591.00
<i>PROGRAMME EXP</i>	850.00	<i>Walk Participats</i>	72,572.00
<i>Site Visit Charges</i>	1,000.00		
<b>Indirect Expenses</b>	<b>5,61,212.49</b>	<i>Nett Loss</i>	<b>85,257.48</b>
<i>Establishment Expense</i>	1,99,263.58		
<i>Accounting and Audit Fees</i>	34,000.00		
<i>Advertisemnt Exp</i>	5,100.31		
<i>COMMISSION</i>	602.98		
<i>Food and Beveragess</i>	6,646.00		
<i>Misch Exp</i>	164.66		
<i>Nature Trail</i>	(-)200.00		
<i>Project Expenses</i>	41,899.96		
<i>Salary Expenses</i>	2,38,133.00		
<i>TOLL CHARGES</i>	1,035.00		
<i>Travelling Expenses</i>	34,567.00		
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,62,116.39</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>9,62,116.39</b>

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