



Annual Report

2023-24

THE
Naturalist
SCHOOL

FigTree
NATURALIST FOUNDATION

THETM Naturalist SCHOOL

Annual Report
2023-2024



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About The Naturalist School

The Naturalist School is a social enterprise that engages closely with nature guides, naturalists, interpreters, forest staff, educators and hobbyists through Govt recognised certificate courses. We aim to foster a new cadre of nature ambassadors.

We also work with local and tribal communities to nurture eco-preneurs and help build sustainable bio-regional economies.

Our dedicated team, passionate volunteers, and generous partners have helped us make significant strides in our mission this year. We are excited to share our accomplishments and outline our dreams for the future.

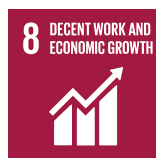
Vision

‘To build a sustainable future for the planet that encourages coexistence with nature’

Mission

‘To foster a deeper understanding and appreciation of our natural world by bringing alive the naturalist in each one of us’

UN Global Goals



Our goals are aligned to the UN Sustainable Development Goals to build a greener, equitable and better world for everyone on the planet.



In our fourth year, we worked in **14** different states across India, and engaged with **440+** people who will become our nature ambassadors.

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Message from the Founder



As we step into another year of The Naturalist School, I find myself reflecting not just on growth, but on the quiet shifts that signal deeper impact, within landscapes, communities, and the individuals we work with. What began as an idea rooted in curiosity and care for the natural world is steadily evolving into a shared movement of learning, stewardship, and livelihood.

This year has been one of both expansion and consolidation. Our work extended across diverse geographies, from the forests of Central India to the mangroves of Odisha and the coastlines of Maharashtra, each landscape bringing with it its own stories, challenges, and ways of knowing. In every place, our focus remained constant: to build capacity within local communities so that conservation is not an external imposition, but an internal, lived practice.

In Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh, our engagement with forest-fringe and tribal communities continued to deepen, recognising and valuing traditional ecological knowledge as central to conservation. In coastal regions, our work with fishing communities explored the intersection of livelihoods and marine conservation, while in Bhitarkanika, we saw how skill-building could transform everyday practitioners into interpreters of fragile ecosystems. These efforts reaffirm a belief that conservation is most meaningful when it is participatory, rooted in dignity, and economically viable.

At the same time, we have continued to strengthen pathways for professional learning. Our Certified Nature Guide and Nature Educator programs are steadily evolving into structured, accessible models that respond to different learning contexts, from residential, immersive formats to hybrid approaches that expand reach without diluting depth. Our engagement with forest departments and training institutions across the country has also grown, allowing us to contribute to capacity-building at multiple levels within the conservation ecosystem.

As Rachel Carson once wrote, “In every outthrust headland, in every curving beach, in every grain of sand there is the story of the earth.” At The Naturalist School, we see our role as enabling people to read, interpret, and share these stories, whether they are guides, educators, forest staff, or citizens encountering nature for the first time.

This year also marked a strengthening of our internal foundations. With a growing team, evolving program structures, and deeper collaborations, we are building not just scale, but continuity and resilience in our work. Our partnerships – with forest departments, grassroots organisations, and institutions, continue to be central to this journey, reminding us that meaningful change is always collective.

As we look ahead, we remain guided by a simple but powerful idea, that conservation is not only about protecting nature, but about nurturing relationships with it. Or, as Aldo Leopold reminds us, “When we see land as a community to which we belong, we may begin to use it with love and respect.”

To everyone who has been a part of this journey, our team, partners, facilitators, and supporters, thank you for your trust, your belief, and your continued commitment. The path ahead is long, but it is one we walk together.



Priya Venkatesh

Founder Director

The Naturalist School

Courses & Programmes



June 2023



Certified Naturalist: RPL

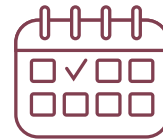
Certified Naturalist Course : Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)



Bangalore



16 Naturalists
from Jungle Lodges



5 June to
11 June 2023

This GOI certification course was conducted for experienced Naturalists who have been in the field and working in the eco-tourism sector for over 5 years – to recognise their prior learning (RPL). This was a bridging course to refresh their skills and knowledge in basic natural history, nature interpretation, nature guide techniques, wilderness safety and first aid, green practices, health and hygiene along with entrepreneurship training – such as communication, etiquette, gender and age sensitisation, guest handling and upholding personal ethics.

Naturalists play a crucial role in ecotourism as they serve as **interpreters and educators**, connecting visitors to the natural environment and promoting conservation principles.

This week-long residential course intended to bridge the gaps in their knowledge, thus enabling the skilled workforce, who have acquired skills through years of experience, to become certified. They were awarded as Certified Naturalists with certification from the Government of India, accredited by the Tourism and Hospitality Skill Council (THSC) as a part of the Skill India mission.



Feedback from participants

“Before this course, I would conduct my work randomly with no beginning, no format and no wrap-up. I was not sure if the message/information was reaching the guests. From now onwards, I will make sure that the safari is in a proper format and complete and the guest will go back with a lot of inputs towards conservation.”

“I liked the session on Green Practices. I learnt the techniques to save the environment around me and also my role in helping others to practise the same – like ban on plastic, to use public transport to bring down pollution, to create awareness on sand mining from rivers in order to preserve marine life, conserve electricity in my own place and teach others.”

“I learnt the responsibility of sharing the aspect of protection of the environment with school kids, people around me and colleagues. To overcome the inferiority and to be confident in facing difficult situations...Everything is within me – self-confidence, enthusiasm, self-belief. During this training period I came to know their values.”





Sept - Oct 2023

Citizen Naturalist: **Inaugural Programme**

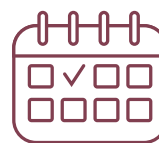
Citizen Naturalist Course



Online &
Bangalore



12 Urban Citizens



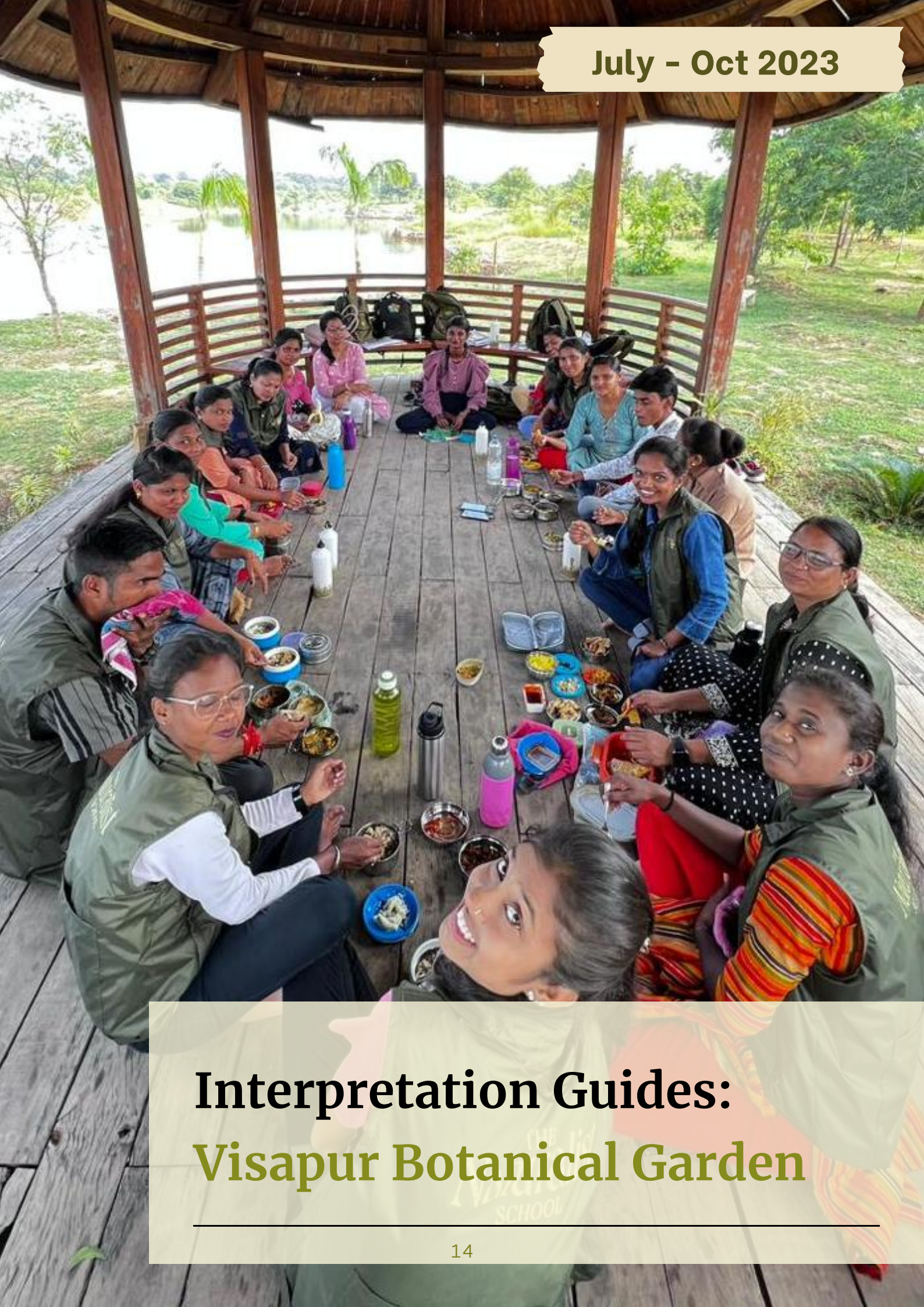
2 Sept to
8 Oct 2023

At The Naturalist School, we meet many people who work in urban settings and careers, and who wish to deepen their knowledge of nature. They are not explicitly looking for a career change but express interest in broader issues. Our Citizen Naturalist course is a course meant for those with such a general interest in natural history.

Our inaugural course drew diverse participants, from wildlife photographers to corporate professionals. It was delivered in hybrid mode over 6 weekends (4 online classes + 2 residential sessions held in an ecolodge). We covered a wide range of topics from urban wildlife and ethics to citizen science. They finished the course with all the skills to take forward natural history as a serious hobby or, for some, a part-time career. They became nature ambassadors, equipped to sharpen their understanding of conservation and environmental issues.



July - Oct 2023

A group of approximately 20 people, mostly women, are sitting in a circular wooden pavilion with a thatched roof. They are arranged in a circle on the wooden floor, eating from small bowls and using water bottles. The pavilion is situated outdoors next to a body of water, with lush green trees and a clear sky in the background. The people are dressed in casual attire, including green vests, pink shirts, and colorful saris. The overall atmosphere is relaxed and communal.

Interpretation Guides: Visapur Botanical Garden

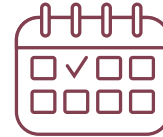
Interpretation Host Guide Course



Maharashtra
Karnataka



19 guides from the
local community



15 July to
15 Oct 2023



The Interpretive Host Course at the **Shradheya Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee Botanical Garden** was a three-month capacity-building program designed to train local community members of Visapur to become responsible, informed, and guest-ready guides for the upcoming eco-tourism destination. As the botanical garden prepares to open with multiple attractions, such as the science museum, underground museum, aquarium, butterfly park, and conservation zone, the need for skilled interpretive hosts who can communicate accurately, engage visitors meaningfully, and uphold safety standards became essential.

In collaboration with the Maharashtra Forest Department, The Naturalist School developed a comprehensive, experiential learning journey for 19 selected participants. The course integrated natural history learning, nature **interpretation, storytelling, communication, hospitality, ethics, mobile photography, and first aid**. Training took place across Visapur, Bangalore, and Mysore, giving participants exposure to museums, aquariums, bird sanctuaries, science centres, and nature-based interpretation models. This multi-location training allowed learners to deeply understand how diverse ecological and cultural spaces can be communicated to visitors.

Throughout the program, participants practised guiding in real settings, interacted with experts, and engaged in reflective and activity-based learning sessions that strengthened their confidence and communication skills. They learned how to introduce exhibits, interact with guests, interpret landscapes, and create safe, welcoming, and informative experiences for visitors.



Assessments in interpretation, first aid, and communication ensured that each participant met the standards required for hosting guests across the garden's various sections. By the end of the course, all 19 trainees emerged as capable interpretive hosts equipped to support the botanical garden when it opens to the public. The program created meaningful livelihood opportunities for the local community while building a skilled workforce that can contribute to the region's eco-tourism vision. Study materials were also provided in Marathi to support continued learning and ensure that participants could grow further in their roles.

July 2023



Bhitarkanika National Park

Eco- Guide Training

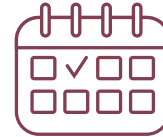
Eco-Guide Training Program



Bhitarkanika,
Odisha



30-35
participants



24 July to
28 July 2023

The Eco-Guide Training Program at Bhitarkanika Mangroves was a five-day capacity-building initiative designed for boatpersons and tourism-associated staff working within the Bhitarkanika landscape. Conducted from 24 to 28 July 2023 at the Dangamal Range Office, the program aimed to strengthen local guiding capacity while promoting responsible and sustainable tourism practices in one of India's most ecologically significant mangrove ecosystems Bhitarkanika training report

The training focused on building foundational knowledge of mangrove ecology, wildlife, and the role of eco-guides in conservation-linked tourism. Participants were introduced to key themes such as mangrove ecosystems, birdlife, reptiles, guiding techniques, guest handling, ethics, and the use of simple documentation and technology tools. Field-based learning formed the core of the program, with mangrove walks, birdwatching sessions, island visits, and practical guiding exercises allowing participants to apply concepts directly within the landscape.

Special emphasis was placed on developing observation skills, interpretation abilities, and responsible visitor engagement. Participants learned how to communicate ecological information accurately, manage guests sensitively, and uphold ethical practices while working in a fragile habitat. Sessions on snake awareness and first aid further strengthened their preparedness for on-ground realities, while exposure to citizen science concepts introduced opportunities for long-term engagement with conservation efforts.





The program concluded with reflections on ethics, sustainability, and the future role of eco-guides in Bhitarkanika. A valedictory ceremony was held to recognise the commitment and participation of the trainees, with certificates awarded in the presence of forest department officials.

Overall, the training strengthened the confidence, knowledge, and professional readiness of local tourism staff, enabling them to serve as informed ambassadors of the Bhitarkanika Mangroves. By equipping community members with interpretation skills and conservation awareness, the program contributes to both sustainable tourism practices and livelihood enhancement, reinforcing the vital connection between local communities and the protection of Bhitarkanika's unique biodiversity.

November 2023



Chilika : Dolphin Saathi Nature Guides

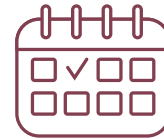
Dolphin Saathi Nature Guide Course



Chilika,
Odisha



21 guides from the
local community



21 Sept to
26 Sept 2023

The Chilika lagoon in Odisha is home to the special Irrawaddy dolphins.

The Naturalist School conducted a 5-day immersive Nature Guide training programme here for the “Dolphin Saathis” at the lagoon. Our expert trainers and external resource people covered topics like Guiding Techniques, Biodiversity of Chilika, Green Skills and more.

Shri Yugabrata Kar, Founder-Director, Odisha Ecotourism Foundation helped us organize this wonderful programme. Thanks also to Shri Amlan Nayak, Divisional Forest Officer & Chief Executive Officer, Wildlife and members of Chilika Lake Authority for their collaboration in conducting the programme smoothly.



Oct 2023



Refresher Course: Kanger Valley National Park

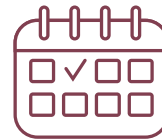
Nature Guide Refresher Course



**Bastar,
Chhattisgarh**



**26 Tribal
Youth**



**?? Oct to
?? Oct 2023**

Building on the foundational Gypsy Safari Guide training conducted in 2022, a Refresher Course for Community Nature Guides was organised in 2023 at Kanger Valley National Park, Chhattisgarh. The program aimed to strengthen and update the skills of previously trained local tribal guides, ensuring that their traditional ecological knowledge continued to be complemented by contemporary practices in nature interpretation, guest handling, safety, and ethical guiding.

The refresher focused on deepening competencies in nature walks, safari guiding, observation, storytelling, and visitor communication, while reinforcing green practices, first aid awareness, and gender- and age-sensitive engagement with tourists. Through experiential field sessions, interactive discussions, and guided practice within the park, participants revisited key concepts of biodiversity, local flora and fauna, and responsible tourism, enabling them to guide with greater confidence and professionalism.

The course also emphasised reflective learning and peer exchange, allowing guides to share experiences from their work on the ground and learn from one another. Regional-language learning materials and field guides were provided to support continued self-learning beyond the training period.

This course played a critical role in sustaining livelihood pathways for local tribal youth by enhancing their employability in ecotourism, strengthening their role as stewards of Kanger Valley's natural heritage, and ensuring consistent quality in visitor experiences within the protected area.



November 2023



Livelihood Programme: Art Mantram

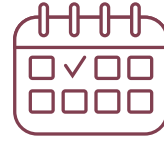
Livelihood programme with Art Mantram



**Bandipur,
Karnataka**



**22 Tribal
Youth**



**6th Nov to
24th Nov 2023**

This livelihood training program was conducted for tribal youth from the villages around Bandipur Tiger Reserve, with the objective of equipping them with essential skills in natural history interpretation and hospitality. The initiative, jointly led by ArtMantram, The Naturalist School, and Jungle Lodges & Resorts, aimed to create meaningful employment pathways for young members of the forest-fringe communities who have grown up alongside the landscapes and wildlife of Bandipur.

Over the span of ten days, participants were introduced to foundational concepts in wildlife, ecology, and guiding, alongside practical training in guest handling, housekeeping, food and beverage service, communication, and safety protocols. The program combined classroom learning with hands-on field exposure, including nature walks, practical guiding sessions, safari-based learning, and observation-led activities. These experiences helped participants understand species behaviour, ecological relationships, and the responsibilities of a nature guide within a protected area.

The training placed strong emphasis on confidence-building and communication. Many participants began the course shy or hesitant, but gradually grew comfortable speaking in groups, interpreting exhibits, and interacting with guests. Through group discussions, debates, interpretive exercises, and nature journaling, they learned to articulate information clearly and build narratives rooted in local ecological knowledge.



Exposure to housekeeping and F&B operations further broadened their understanding of hospitality standards expected at eco-lodges and nature-based properties. Participants also received sessions on ethics, green practices, and professionalism—crucial components of working responsibly within a sensitive wildlife landscape. By the close of the training, the youth who completed the program demonstrated improved communication, stronger ecological understanding, and practical competence in guiding and hospitality tasks.

To support long-term employability, the program includes a three-month paid internship with Jungle Lodges & Resorts, where participants will continue to gain experience across departments. This internship aims to bridge skill gaps, reinforce learning, and enable the youth to transition into formal roles within the eco-tourism and conservation-linked hospitality sector.



Jan & Feb 2024



Course for Forest Guards: Bandhavgarh & Betul

Mera Beat Mera Abhiman

Course for Forest Guards



Madhya
Pradesh



20 Forest Guards
from 9 Ranges



Jan 2024
Feb 2024

The Meri Beat Mera Abhimaan (MBMA) initiative, implemented in collaboration with the **Last Wilderness Foundation**, focused on strengthening the skills and confidence of frontline forest staff through experiential training programs across protected areas and forest divisions. During 2023–24, The Naturalist School contributed to the program by designing and facilitating workshops that emphasised practical conservation knowledge, communication, and team-building among forest personnel.

One such program was conducted at Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve, where over 36 participants—including beat guards and deputy rangers—from all nine forest ranges took part in a six-day training workshop. The sessions were facilitated by Priya Venkatesh from The Naturalist School and focused on strengthening interpersonal communication, trust-building, and collaborative problem-solving among field staff. Through interactive exercises, reflective discussions, and experiential activities, participants explored how these skills influence their day-to-day work in conservation landscapes. The training created a space for staff across different ranges to connect, share experiences, and build a stronger sense of collective responsibility toward the protection of their forest beats.

Another MBMA workshop was conducted in the Betul Forest Division, bringing together around 30 forest personnel, including beat guards, rangers, and divisional officers. The three-day program combined classroom discussions with outdoor activities aimed at strengthening field-level decision-making and conservation practices. Participants engaged in skill-building exercises designed to deepen their understanding of ecological stewardship, improve communication within teams, and enhance their confidence in managing forest areas. The workshop also included sessions on gender sensitisation and participatory dialogue, encouraging open reflection on workplace experiences and strengthening mutual support among forest staff.



Jan 2024



Capacity Building: Renukaji Wildlife Sanctuary

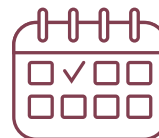
Capacity Building for Nature Guides



Sirmour,
Himachal
Pradesh

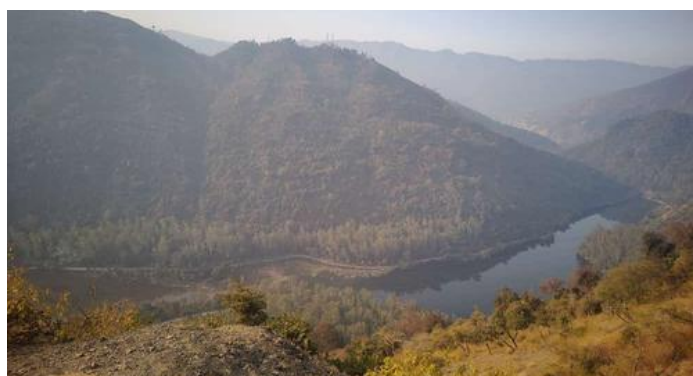


50 guides



22 Jan to
2 Feb 2024

The Naturalist School partnered with the Himachal Pradesh Forest Department to conduct a Nature Guides and Educators Training Program at Sri Renukaji Wildlife Sanctuary from 22 January to 2 February 2024. The program brought together 52 participants from the local community, with the objective of strengthening nature interpretation, communication, and guiding skills to support emerging ecotourism initiatives in the region. Through interactive sessions, discussions, and experiential learning activities, participants explored key themes such as environmental education, visitor engagement, and responsible nature guiding. The training marked the completion of the first phase of collaboration with the Himachal Pradesh Forest Department to build local capacity for ecotourism through skill development. At the valedictory ceremony, participants were awarded certificates and badges in recognition of their successful completion of the program, celebrating the emergence of a new cohort of trained nature guides for the Renukaji landscape.



Letter of Appreciation



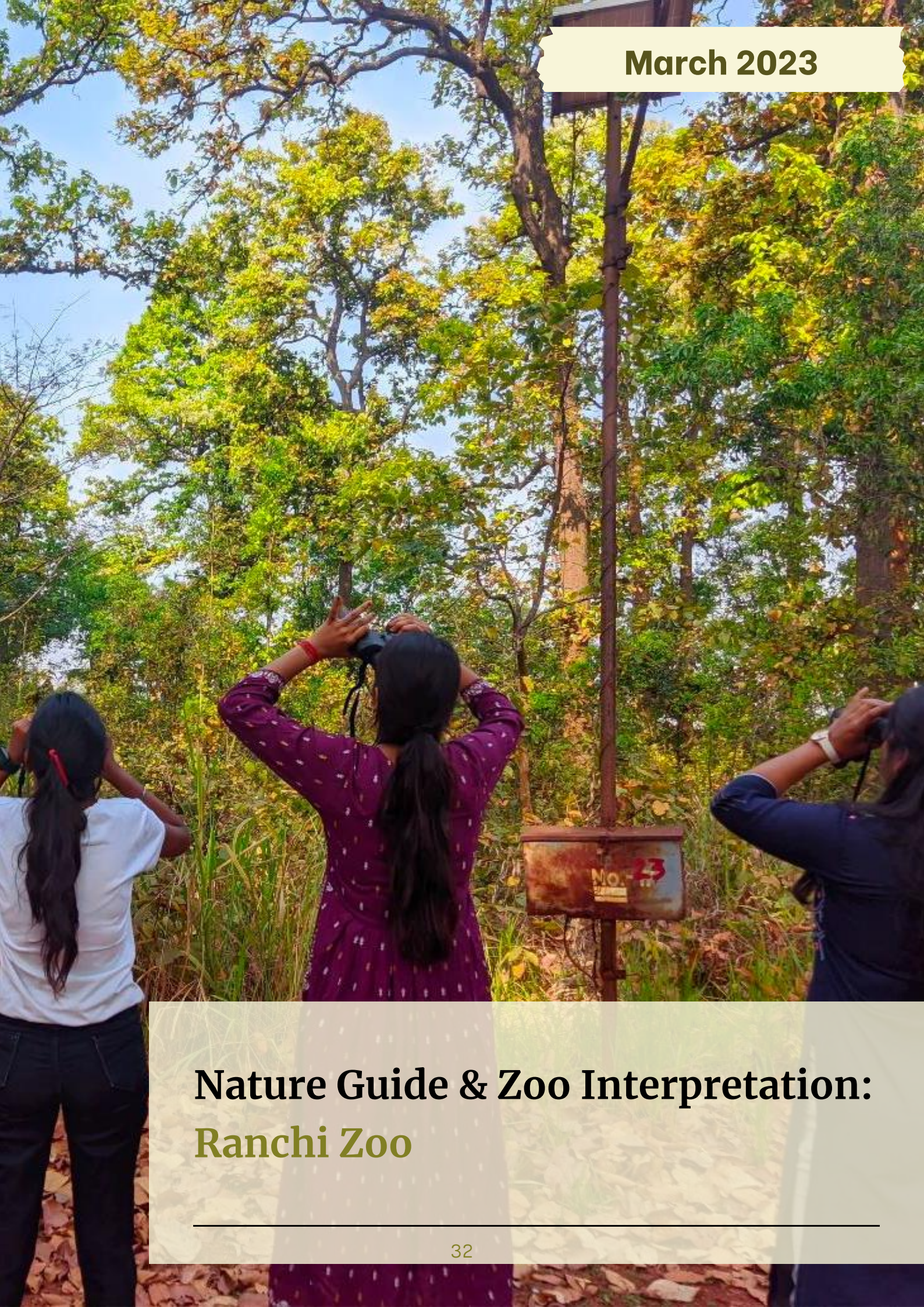
Dear Ms. Priya Venkatesh
The Naturalist School

This letter is to express our sincere gratitude for your invaluable contribution to the Nature Guides and Educators Training Program organized by the Shimla Wildlife Division at Shri Renuka Ji Wildlife Range, Himachal Pradesh, from January 22, 2024, to February 2, 2024. Thank you for providing the excellent foundation to the course with the communications module and enriching the programme across modules through your experienced inputs. We particularly thank you for your excellent bonhomie, selfless spirit, commitment to the programme and thorough professionalism.

Your expertise, commitment, and passion for environmental education greatly enriched the program, leaving a lasting impact on the participants. Your engaging presentations, insightful discussions, and hands-on activities were instrumental in fostering a deeper understanding of our natural heritage. Your dedication to promoting conservation and environmental awareness aligns seamlessly with the goals of our training program. Your contributions have undoubtedly inspired a new generation of nature guides and educators.

Once again, we extend our heartfelt appreciation for your exemplary role in making the program a resounding success. Thank you for your outstanding service. We look forward to a future collaboration too for taking this to greater heights.

With sincere appreciation,
Mr. N Ravisankar Sarma
Deputy Conservator of Forest,
Shimla Wildlife Division

A photograph of three people standing in a forest, looking through binoculars. The person in the center is wearing a purple patterned dress, the person on the left is wearing a white t-shirt, and the person on the right is wearing a dark blue shirt. They are all looking towards the left side of the frame. The background is filled with tall trees with green and yellow leaves. A wooden signpost is visible on the right side of the frame.

March 2023

Nature Guide & Zoo Interpretation: Ranchi Zoo

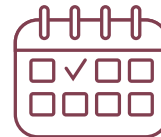
Nature Guide & Zoo Interpretation Course



**Ranchi,
Jharkhand**



**20 guides from the
local community**



**27 Mar to
31 Mar 2023**

The Nature and Wildlife Interpretation Course at Bhagwan Birsa Biological Park, Ranchi, was a five-day residential training program designed to introduce young learners to the fundamentals of nature guiding, wildlife interpretation, and responsible ecotourism practices. Conducted from 27 March to 1 April 2024, the program brought together 20 students from science backgrounds who were interested in exploring careers and learning pathways in wildlife and nature-based fields.

The course focused on building core skills in observation, interpretation, storytelling, and guest interaction, while grounding participants in basic natural history. Through a combination of experiential activities, zoo walks, nature journaling, and interactive sessions, participants learned how to observe biodiversity closely, communicate ecological information effectively, and engage audiences meaningfully. Emphasis was placed on understanding the role of nature guides as interpreters who bridge the gap between people and nature while conveying conservation values.

Participants were exposed to birds, butterflies, and aquatic life through guided visits to the zoo, butterfly park, and aquarium, and practiced presenting species information in a clear and engaging manner. Sessions on ethics, professional conduct, and guest handling helped participants understand the responsibilities involved in guiding within public nature spaces. Storytelling exercises encouraged them to connect ecological concepts to lived experiences, strengthening both confidence and communication skills.

By the end of the program, participants demonstrated improved observation abilities, stronger communication, and a clearer understanding of nature guiding as a profession. The course provided a strong foundation for further engagement in eco-tourism, wildlife interpretation, and conservation education, while also introducing participants to potential career pathways within the sector.



A full-page photograph of a dirt path leading through a tropical landscape. On the left, there are palm trees and a body of water. On the right, there are dense trees. Three people are walking away on the path. The sky is clear and blue.

Walks & Talks



Biodiversity Walks



Koira Biodiversity Walk feb 25 -2025



Environment education program for school students at Koira lake 29.07.2023



Biodiversity Walk at Koira lake 02.09.2023



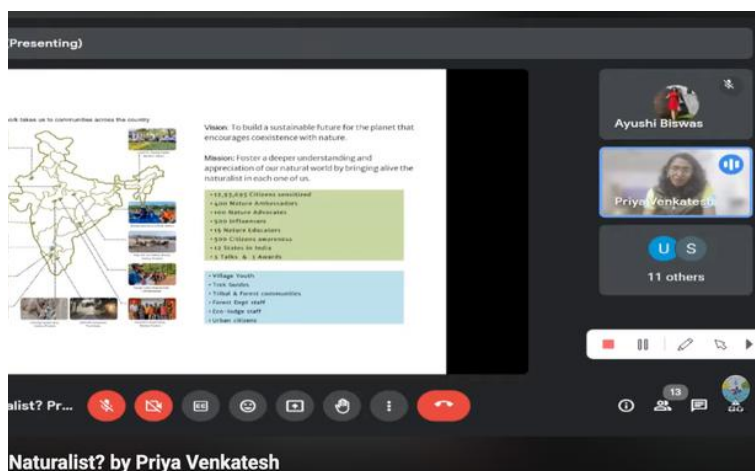
Mariot Hotel Prestige golf Share Devanahalli

Talks





On the occasion of World Environment Health Day, The Naturalist School was invited to deliver a keynote lecture at the General Post Office (GPO) on the theme **“The Hidden World of Fungi.”** The event also marked the release of the book *Endangered Species on Stamps in the Last 30 Years* by a retired Forest Officer, bringing together conservation enthusiasts, postal officials, and the public to reflect on biodiversity and environmental awareness. The event also honoured a master craftsman from Andhra Pradesh known for the traditional Etikoppaka wooden toys, recognising the role of indigenous craftsmanship in promoting sustainability and cultural appreciation.



The Naturalist School also contributed to public engagement through invited talks and outreach sessions during the year. As part of the Biome Talks series hosted by Biome Environmental Trust, Priya Venkatesh delivered a talk titled **“Are You a Naturalist?”**, introducing participants to the practice of observing and engaging with nature in everyday life. TNS also collaborated with Silver Talkies Club for an online session titled **“Urban Wildlife: A Personal Journey,”** delivered by Suchi Govindarajan,



which explored how biodiversity can be discovered and appreciated even within urban environments. Together, these talks encouraged wider audiences to cultivate curiosity, awareness, and a deeper connection with the natural world.



Awards & Press

WTCA Awards



A united celebration of conservation heroes: Winners and attendees of the Wildlife Tourism Conclave & Awards 2024 at Sanjay Gandhi National Park, Mumbai, embodying the spirit of sustainable tourism and wildlife preservation.





Press Clippings

Coverage of training at Jharkhand

ଚିଲିକାରେ ଡକ୍ଟ୍ରିନକୁ ମିଳିବ ସୁରକ୍ଷା

ବ୍ରହ୍ମପୁର, ୨୨।୯ (ନି.ପ୍ର): ଚିଲିକାରେ ବିରଳ ଏରାଣ୍ଡା ଡକ୍ଟ୍ରିନକୁ ସୁରକ୍ଷା ପାଇଁ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟ କରିବେ ଡକ୍ଟ୍ରିନ ସାଥୀ। ସ୍ଥାନୀୟ ବିଶ୍ୱ ମୁଦ୍ରକଙ୍କୁ ଏଥିପାଇଁ ତାଲିମ ପ୍ରଦାନ କରାଯିବ। ସହ ନିୟୋଜିତ କରାଯିବ। ଓଡ଼ିଶା ପରିବେଶ ପର୍ଯ୍ୟଟନ ପାଇଁ ଡକ୍ଟ୍ରିନ ପକ୍ଷରୁ ଏଥିପାଇଁ ଉଦ୍ୟମ ଆରମ୍ଭ ହୋଇଛି। ଶୁକ୍ରବାର ସାତପଡ଼ା ଚିଲିକା ଉତ୍ତର କର୍ମପକ୍ଷ ସମ୍ମିଳନୀ କକ୍ଷରେ ଡକ୍ଟ୍ରିନ ସାଥୀ ପ୍ରଶିକ୍ଷଣ ଶିବିର ଆରମ୍ଭ ହୋଇଛି। ସିଟିଏ ଅତିରିକ୍ତ ମୁଖ୍ୟ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟନିର୍ବାହୀ ଅଧିକାରୀ ଅମ୍ବାନ ନାୟକ, ପାଇଁ ଡକ୍ଟ୍ରିନ ସରକାରୀ ମୁଦ୍ରକ କର, ସାତପଡ଼ା ପଞ୍ଚାୟତ ସରକାରୀ ରକ୍ଷିତା ସାମଗ୍ରୀ, ପ୍ରଶିକ୍ଷକ ଏନ୍. ଏସ୍ ମୁଦ୍ରକ ଗାଙ୍ଗୁଲି ସେଥିରେ ଅତିଥିଭାବେ ଯୋଗଦେଇ କହିଲେ ଯେ, ଏରାଣ୍ଡା ଡକ୍ଟ୍ରିନ ଚିଲିକା ଏକ ପ୍ରମୁଖ ଆକର୍ଷଣ। ଚିଲିକା ଉପରେ ଲକ୍ଷ ଲକ୍ଷ ପାରମ୍ପରିକ ମାତୃକାବାସ



କାବିକା ନିର୍ମଳ କରୁଛି। ଚିଲିକାରେ ପରିସ୍ଥାନ କରି ବ୍ୟବହାର ଯୋଗୁ ପ୍ରାକୃତିକ ପରିବେଶ ନଷ୍ଟ ହେଉଛି। ଏହାଛଡ଼ା ତିଳେଇ ଚାଳିତ ମୋଟର ବୋଟ୍‌ଗୁଡ଼ିକରୁ ତେଲ ନିର୍ଗତ ହେବା ଯୋଗୁ ଚିଲିକା ପ୍ରଦୂଷିତ ହେଉଛି। ଚିଲିକାର ଜୈବ ବିବିଧତା ନଷ୍ଟ ହେବା ସହ ଡକ୍ଟ୍ରିନଙ୍କ ଉପରେ ଏହାର ଖରାପ ପ୍ରଭାବ ପଡୁଛି। ସ୍ଥାନୀୟ ମୁଦ୍ରକମାନେ ଚାହିଁଲେ ଚିଲିକା ସମେତ ଏରାଣ୍ଡା ଡକ୍ଟ୍ରିନକୁ ସୁରକ୍ଷା

ହୋଇପାରିବ। ସ୍ଥାନୀୟ ଅଧିବାସୀ ଏଥିପାଇଁ ଆଗେଇ ଆସିବାକୁ ସେମାନେ ଆହ୍ୱାନ କରିଛନ୍ତି। ସାତପଡ଼ା ମୋଟର ବୋଟ୍ ଏଫ୍ ସରକାରୀ କୃତିବାସ ଦଳ, ଆକାଶବାଣୀ ମୋଟର ବୋଟ୍ ଏଫ୍ ସରକାରୀ ତ୍ରିନାଥ ବାଲି, ଗଙ୍ଗାଧରପୁର ମୋଟର ବୋଟ୍ ଏଫ୍ ସରକାରୀ ପ୍ରମୋଦ କେଳ, ରାୟପୁର ମୋଟର ବୋଟ୍ ଏଫ୍ ସରକାରୀ ବିଭୂତି କେଳ,

ଗବଳୁଣ ମୋଟର ବୋଟ୍ ଏଫ୍ ସରକାରୀ ପ୍ରଦୀପ କେଳ, ମିଳାପୁର ମୋଟର ବୋଟ୍ ଏଫ୍ କୋଷାଧ୍ୟକ୍ଷ ଭାସ୍କର କେଳ। ଏବଂ ସମାଜସେବା ସ୍ୱରୂପ କେଳ ସେଥିରେ ଉପସ୍ଥିତ ଥିଲେ। ପାଇଁ ଡକ୍ଟ୍ରିନ ପକ୍ଷରୁ ମୁଦ୍ରକଙ୍କୁ ତାଲିମ ପ୍ରଦାନ କରାଯାଇଥିବା ସରକାରୀ ଶ୍ରୀ କର ସୁଚନା ଦେଇଛନ୍ତି। ବିଶ୍ୱ ପର୍ଯ୍ୟଟନ ଦିବସ ଅବସରରେ ଆସନ୍ତା ୨୭ତାରିଖରେ

◆ ତାଲିମ ନେଲେ ୩୦ ମୁଦ୍ରକ
◆ ନିୟୁତ ହେବେ ଡକ୍ଟ୍ରିନ ମିତ୍ର

ଚିଲିକାରେ ସଫେଇ ଓ ସଫେଇତା କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ଆୟୋଜନ କରାଯିବ ବୋଲି ସେ କହିଛନ୍ତି। ଆଶିଷ କୁମାର ବାଲି ଏବଂ ବଚନ କୁମାର ସାହୁ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ପରିଚାଳନା କରିଥିଲେ।

Coverage of training at Chilika

प्राकृतिक वातावरण के प्रति जागरूक करेंगे युवा

**बिरसा जैविक उद्यान
में 25 युवाओं को
मिला प्रशिक्षण**

खबर मन्त्र संवाददाता

ओरमांझी। बिरसा जैविक उद्यान ओरमांझी आने वाले सैलानियों को प्रकृति वातावरण के प्रति जागरूक करने के लिए उद्यान प्रशासन द्वारा क्षेत्र के 25 युवाओं का प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम शुरू किया गया है। जैविक उद्यान के ऑडियो विजुवल लायब्रेरी में आयोजित सात दिवसीय प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम के लिए विज्ञान स्नातक के 25 युवाओं का चयन किया गया। यह सभी प्रशिक्षित युवाओं से उद्यान प्रशासन प्रकृति वातावरण के प्रति जागरूकता पर गाइड के रूप में



प्रशिक्षण लेने वाले सभी युवागण।

सेवा ले सकती है। इन सभी युवाओं को प्रशिक्षण देने के लिए बंगलोर के द-नेच्यूरलिस्ट स्कूल से दो प्रशिक्षक प्रिया वेंकटेश व भरत माधव रेड्डी जैविक उद्यान ओरमांझी पहुंचे हैं। प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम का उद्घाटन मुख्य वन संरक्षक सह जैविक उद्यान के

निदेशक जय्वर सिंह ने किया, और प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम की जानकारी देते हुए कहा प्रशिक्षण के बाद सभी युवाओं को जैविक उद्यान द्वारा प्रमाण पत्र दिया जाएगा। यह सभी आने वाले समय में सैलानियों को पर्यावरण व प्रकृति के प्रति जागरूक करेंगे। मौके पर सहायक

वन संरक्षक अशोक कुमार सिंह, उद्यान के पशु चिकित्सक डॉ ओमप्रकाश साहू, वन क्षेत्र पदाधिकारी रामबाबू कुमार, जीव विज्ञानी पार्थ सरथी मंडल, विवेकानंद, वनरक्षी अमित कुमार, ललन कुमार व मुकेश कुमार आदि उपस्थित थे।



Coverage of first ever Certified Naturalist Course

'Certified naturalist' course launched

BENGALURU, DHNS: With a boom in ecotourism, The Naturalist School (TNS), a women-led social enterprise, has collaborated with the Karnataka Forest Department (KFD) to introduce a 750-hour intense course to become a 'Certified Naturalist'.

The course is offered by the Naturalist Centre Of Excellence (NCOE), said to be India's first government accredited training centre for nature guides.

Priya Venkatesh, the

Founder Director of TNS, said in a statement that the course aims to create job opportunities for the local communities to earn extra income by becoming forest and nature guides.

"The curriculum emphasises the art of storytelling and nature interpretation. By learning to weave captivating narratives about the natural world, graduates can connect with audiences at a deeper level, igniting a bias for conservation. This empowers them

to be effective educators and ambassadors for the environment, influencing positive change," she said.

Once certified, graduates can work as nature guides in national parks and reserves, eco-lodges and wildlife sanctuaries while gaining in-depth knowledge on ecology and natural history of Indian ecosystems, flora and fauna identification, bird watching and animal tracking skills, alongside responsible tourism practices, she added.

K'taka first state to offer naturalist training course

BOSKY KHANNA @Bengaluru

Karnataka is the first state in the country to offer a certified course for people to become naturalists. This training is being offered under the Skill India programme of the central government.

Trained naturalists working with the government agencies and retired Indian Forest Service (IFS) officers, will be providing the training and is one of the list 16 skill training courses certified by the government.

It is like a cadet training of one month, which includes 15 days of theory and 15 days practical knowledge. All as-

pects of nature are taught including details of insects, butterflies, soil, flora and fauna, and wildlife. Minimum qualification to apply for the course is PUC.

"So far two batches of training have already been conducted and at the next level, we are planning to start six months course as well. The course was started to help people in rural areas to be trained, and self-sufficient. During our work, we saw a lot of people have local knowledge, but lack finances and expertise. Hence we started this programme. So far, around 60 people have been

trained. While some have got jobs in private resorts as naturalists and guides, some have gone back to their native villages and have become entrepreneurs," said a retired IFS officer.

The official said that the rural folk can reap the most benefits from this course, as rural tourism, home stays, resorts, conservation and community reserves are becoming popular. Also, the youth, nowadays are travelling to the city outskirts on ad-

venture holidays, ensuring the demand for trained naturalists is on a rise.

"Enthusiasts from other states who took training in Karnataka, have been absorbed by their state forest department officials for safari travelling. IFS officers have access and knowledge, but sometimes our communication and dissemination to students is not good. Hence we roped in seven expert naturalists to train students along with retired professors from forestry colleges," the official said.

Two batches of training have already been conducted and at the next level, we are planning to start 6 months course. The course was started to help people in rural areas to be trained— Retired IFS Officer



TNS TEAM

Core Team

Directors



Priya Venkatesh



Dr. Neharika Vohra

Programme Director



Prakruthi Subramanya

Admin Manager



Goda Krishna

Advisors



Sanjai Mohan, IFS

Sanjai Mohan is ex-Head of Forest Force, Karnataka. He managed various positions in the Forest Department throughout his tenure and worked as Chief Wildlife Warden of the State. Among other positions, he also worked as CEO of Karnataka Ecotourism Development Board and MD of Jungle Lodges and Resorts. He initiated projects for conservation of smaller wildlife (canids), Great Indian Bustard, Floricans, endemic Mahseer and establishing a Vulture breeding centre. Sanjai Mohan also has the honour of facilitating the declaration of Karnataka's State Butterfly - The Southern Birdwing. A learner and a naturalist at heart, Sanjai Mohan has a gleam in his eye even today when he spots a tiny butterfly or a lovely jumping spider.

Karthikeyan.S has been educating and creating awareness among the young and old alike on various aspects of natural history through nature camps, talks and nature-based activities for over 40 years. He worked with WWF-India for 14 years as the Education Officer, Karnataka State Office. He joined Jungle Lodges & Resorts Ltd. as the Chief Naturalist in 2006. He also serves as the Chief Trainer on the Karnataka Ecotourism Development Board. Karthik has several publications in technical journals to his credit. He authors wildwanderer.com where he narrates his personal encounters strung together with natural history information. He was conferred the Carl Zeiss Award for conservation in 2013.



Karthikeyan. S



Vinay Sirsi

Vinay Sirsi is an experienced leader and growth architect with domain expertise across multiple sectors. Proven ability to quickly learn new fields and industries in support of client projects ensuring impact. Vinay began his career as an IAF pilot and pursued leadership development and business management skills largely as a serial entrepreneur/consultant. He has a passion for adventure, flying, wilderness and building high performing teams that continuously challenge status quo. His areas of work include Strategic Visioning, Organizational Development, Operations Management, Business Development, Training and Facilitation.

Support



Suchi Govindarajan



Lavanya Raju



Chandra Sekhar Bandi



Chandrashekar Koira

Future Vision

As we look toward the future, the idea of nature-positive action becomes increasingly central to how we imagine growth, development, and conservation. This decade presents a critical opportunity, to not only acknowledge the value of nature, but to actively place it on a path to recovery. Our vision is to contribute to a world where people, economies, and ecosystems can coexist and thrive by 2050.

At the heart of this vision lies the recognition of indigenous knowledge systems and the lived experiences of forest-dependent communities. Strengthening these voices and enabling their participation in conservation and ecotourism is essential to building sustainable and equitable models of growth. We believe that responsible, community-led tourism can serve as a powerful bridge, supporting livelihoods while ensuring ecological integrity.

Over the past year, The Naturalist School has piloted several initiatives with forest communities across India, laying the groundwork for scalable models of capacity building and livelihood generation. As we move forward, we aim to expand this work across many more communities through a combination of digital and on-ground interventions. These include technology-enabled certification platforms, vernacular learning modules, ecopreneurship incubators, and a dedicated job marketplace for nature-based careers.

Equally important is the role of citizens in shaping environmental futures. Through our outreach and engagement programmes, we seek to nurture a growing community of individuals who are not only aware of ecological challenges, but are also motivated to act. By creating spaces for learning, dialogue, and participation, we hope to translate concern into meaningful action.

We also recognise that long-term change must begin early. Our efforts to integrate nature education into mainstream learning- through electives, vocational programmes, and university-level certifications- are aimed at fostering a generation that is both ecologically literate and deeply connected to the natural world.

As we expand our footprint, we see Training Centres playing a vital role in enabling hyper-local impact. By strengthening regional hubs and building new partnerships, particularly in the North and East of India, we aim to make our programmes more accessible, context-specific, and efficient.

The path ahead calls for collaboration, innovation, and a sustained commitment to reimagining how we live with nature. We move forward with the belief that small, grounded interventions, when nurtured over time, can collectively shape a more resilient and hopeful future.

Acknowledgements

We are in grateful to all our collaborators and partners who have walked this journey with us in various capacities.

Our work this year took us to -

Nagarahole Tiger Reserve
Kanger Valley National Park
Bhitarkanika National Park
Kuno National Park
Amrabad Tiger Reserve
Panna Tiger Reserve
Bannerghatta National Park

... and you have travelled with us all the way.
We value our association with you!

Community partners / Other Non-profits:

Action for Protection of Wild Animals (APOWA)
Last Wilderness Foundation (LWF)
GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH)
Indian Grameen Services (IGG)
Shikhar Institute
Godrej Mangrove Foundation
Mangrove Foundation
Laksh Foundation

Hospitality Partners:

Jungle Lodges & Resorts
Ibnii Coorg
Bamboo Forest Tadoba
Spotted Owllet Tadoba
Vanya Vilas Ranthambore

Govt bodies:

FTATI (Forest Technical and Administrative Training Institute), Karnataka Forest Department.
EMPRI (Environmental Management & Policy Research Institute)
Central Academy for State Forest Service (CASFOS)

Insitutional partners:

NCVET (National Council for Vocational Education and Training)
THSC (Tourism and Hospitality Skills Council)
NSDC (National Skill Development Corporation)



Financial Summary

FIG TREE NATURALIST FOUNDATION
(A Private Limited Company under Section 8 of The Companies Act, 2013)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March, 2024
(All amounts are in Hundreds of Indian Rupees unless otherwise stated)

Particulars	Note No.	As at 31 March, 2024	As at 31 March, 2023
		Rs.	Rs.
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES			
Shareholders' funds			
Share Capital	3	2,000.00	2,000.00
Reserves and Surplus	4	(470.96)	(4,643.53)
 Current liabilities			
Other Current Liabilities	5	2,131.04	5,993.01
TOTAL		3,660.08	3,349.48
 ASSETS			
Non Current Assets			
Property, Plant and Equipment and Intangible Assets			
Intangible Fixed Assets	6	100.00	100.00
 Current assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	7	1,426.34	2,069.74
Other Current Assets	8	4	4
TOTAL		2,630.78	3,179.78
		4	4

See accompanying notes forming part of the financial statements

Interms of our report attached.

For S. P Gupta & Associates

For and on behalf of Board of Directors

Chartered Accountants

(Firm Reg no 103445W)

(Preeti Parasrampur) (Priya Venkiteswaran) (Neharika Vohra)

Partner

Dire ctor

Dire ctor

Membership No 131204

DIN: 02319433

DIN: 06808439

Mumbai

Date : 05-09-2024

FIG TREE NATURALIST FOUNDATION (A Private Limited Company under Section 8 of The Companies Act, 2013) Statement of Income and Expenditure for the period from 01 April, 2023 to 31 March, 2024 (All amounts are in Hundreds of Indian Rupees unless otherwise stated)			
Particulars	Note No.	For the period ended 31 March, 2024	For the period ended 31 March, 2023
		Rs.	Rs.
INCOME			
Donations Received	9	19,58	8,419
Other Income	10	1	6,878
Total Income		20,339	15,297
EXPENDITURE			
Project Expenses	11	22,177	16,874
Establishment Expenses	12	3,589	3,334
Depreciation	5	-	-
Total Expenses		25,766	20,207
Excess of Income over Expenditure/ (Excess of expenditure over Income)		4,173	(4,911)
See accompanying notes forming part of the financial statements In terms of our report attached.			
For S. P Gupta & Associates Chartered Accountants (Firm Reg no 103445W)		For and on behalf of Board of Directors	
(Preeti Parasrampur)		(Priya Venkiteswaran)	
Partner		Director	
Membership No 131204		DIN: 02319433	
Mumbai		(Neharika Vohra)	
Date : 05-09-2024		Director	
		DIN: 06808439	

FIG TREE NATURALIST FOUNDATION (A Private Limited Company under Section 8 of The Companies Act, 2013) Notes forming part of the financial statements	
Note	Particulars
1	Corporate information
	Fig Tree Naturalist Foundation ("the Company") was incorporated on 27th July 2021. The Company build new knowledge on Wildlife and Nature Interpretation in the Indian and Asian perspectives across India to develop and advocate methods to promote Wildlife and Nature interpretation in all segments of visitors and beneficiaries: Educational, Children, youth teachers and create research and training facilities across various geographies through various modalities including collaboration with existing centers in India or Abroad. To build global standard syllabus, curriculum and content in Wildlife and Nature interpretation to meet the diverse needs of the industry and create a 'Center of excellence' for vocational skills and capacity building of nature guides and naturalities and create viable career paths in the areas of Wildlife and Nature interpretation and offer continuous education opportunities.
2	Significant accounting policies Basis of accounting and preparation of financial statements
2.01	The financial statements are prepared in accordance with Indian Generally Accepted Accounting Principles ("GAAP"), the mandatory Accounting Standards issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India and prescribed by the Companies (Accounting Standards) Rules, 2006, the provisions of the Companies Act, 1956. The Company has been consistent in its accounting policies. Change in the accounting policies, however is disclosed separately.
2.02	Use of estimates The preparation of the financial statements in conformity with Indian GAAP requires the Management to make estimates and assumptions considered in the reported amounts of assets and liabilities (including contingent liabilities) and the reported income and expenses during the year. The Management believes that the estimates used in preparation of the financial statements are prudent and reasonable. Future results could differ due to these estimates and the differences between the actual results and the estimates are recognised in the periods in which the results are known / materialised.
2.03	Revenue recognition Income is accounted on accrual basis as it is earned. When there is an uncertainty as to the measurement and ultimate collectibility, revenue recognition is postponed until such uncertainty is resolved.
2.04	Employee benefits All employee benefits payable wholly within twelve months of rendering the service are classified as a short term employee benefits. Benefits such as salaries, wages, contractual labour charges and short term compensated absences, etc is recognized in the period in which the employee / contractual labour renders the related service.
2.05	Fixed Assets Tangible Assets are stated at Cost less accumulated depreciation and net of impairment, if any. Depreciation is provided on Written Down Value Method in accordance with the useful life prescribed in Schedule II to the Act. Depreciation is provided on a pro-rata basis i.e. from the date on which asset is ready for use.
2.06	Segment Information The primary focus of the Company is to The Company build new knowledge on Wildlife and Nature Interpretation in the Indian and Asian perspectives across India to develop and advocate methods to promote Wildlife and Nature interpretation in all segments of visitors and beneficiaries. All other activities revolve around the main business. The Company does not have any geographical segments. There are no separate reportable segments as per Accounting Standard 17 on 'Segment Reporting' as notified under the Companies (Accounting Standards) Rules, 2006.
2.07	Provisions and contingencies A provision is recognised when the Company has a present obligation as a result of past events and it is probable that an outflow of resources will be required to settle the obligation in respect of which a reliable estimate can be made. Provisions (excluding retirement benefits) are not discounted to their present value and are determined based on the best estimate required to settle the obligation at the Balance Sheet date. These are reviewed at each Balance Sheet date and adjusted to reflect the current best estimates. Contingent liabilities are disclosed in the Notes. Contingent Assets are neither recognised nor disclosed in the financial statements.

FIG TREE NATURALIST FOUNDATION				
(A Private Limited Company under Section 8 of The Companies Act, 2013)				
NOTES FORMING PART OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS				
	As at March 31, 2024		As at March 31, 2023	
Note 3				
<u>Share Capital</u>				
Authorised Share Capital				
20,000EquityShareofRs. 10/- each		2,000		2,000
		<u>2,000</u>		<u>2,000</u>
Issued, Subscribed and Paid-up capital				
20,000Equity Shareof Rs. 10/- each		2,000		2,000
		<u>2,000</u>		<u>2,000</u>
Reconciliation of the no.of shares outsatnding at 31st March 2024 - beginning and at the end of the year:				
	As at March 31, 2024		As at March 31, 2023	
	Nos	Rs.	Nos	Rs.
Equity Shares				
No of Shares outstanding at the beginning of the year	20,000	2,000	-	-
Add : Addition Shares issued during the year	-	-	20,000	2,000
Less : Shares forfeited / Bought back during the year	-	-	-	-
No.of Shares outstanding at the end of the year	<u>20,000</u>	<u>2,000</u>	<u>20,000</u>	<u>2,000</u>
Notes				
*Details of Equity Shares held by each shareholders holding more than 5% :				
Name of Shareholder	31-March-2024		31-March-2023	
	No of Shares	% of Holding	No of Shares	% of Holding
Karthikeyan Srinivasan	4,000	20.0%	4,000	20.00%
Priya Venkiteswaran	16,000	80.0%	16,000	80.00%
	<u>20,000</u>	<u>100.0%</u>	<u>20,000</u>	<u>1 00 .0 0%</u>

FIG TREE NATURALIST FOUNDATION

(A Private Limited Company under Section 8 of The Companies Act, 2013)

Notes forming part of the financial statements

(All amounts are in Hundreds of Indian Rupees unless otherwise stated)

Particulars	As at 31 March, 2024	As at 31 March, 2023
	Rs.	Rs.
Note 4 : Reserves & Surplus		
Surplus / (Deficit) in Statement of Income & Expenditure		
Balance at beginning of the year	(4,643.53)	267.36
Add: Surplus / (Deficit) for the year	4,172.57	(4,910.89)
Closing balance	(470.96)	(4,643.53)
Note 5 : Other Current Liabilities		
Sundry Creditors for Expenses	91.72	4,317.00
Creditors for reimbursement	2,039.31	1,641.01
Statutory Dues	-	35.00
Total	2,131.04	5,993.01

FIG TREE NATURALIST FOUNDATION (A Private Limited Company under Section 8 of The Companies Act, 2013)												
Notes forming part of the financial statements												
Note 6: Fixed Assets												
Amounts: Rs in '00.												
	Gross Block (at Cost)		Gross Block (at Cost)				Depreciation				Net Block	
Sr. No.	Particulars	Useful Life	As at 1 April, 2023	Addition during the year	Deduction / sales during the year	As at 31 March, 2024	As at 1 April, 2023	For the year 2023-23	Adjustments during the year	As at 31 March, 2024	As at 31 March, 2024	As at 31 March, 2023
	Inangible Assets											
1	Trademark		100.00	-	-	100.00	-	-	-	-	100.00	100.00
	Total		100.00	-	-	100.00	-	-	-	-	100.00	100.00

FIG TREE NATURALIST FOUNDATION (A Private Limited Company under Section 8 of The Companies Act, 2013) (All amounts are in Hundreds of Indian Rupees unless otherwise stated)		
Particulars	For the period ended 31 March, 2024	For the period ended 31 March, 2023
	Rs.	Rs.
Note 7 : Cash and Cash Equivalents		
Cash on hand	-	-
Balances with banks- Current Account	1,426.34	2,069.74
Total	1,426.34	2,069.74
Note 8: Other Current Assets		
Sundry Receivables	-	300.00
Advance to creditors	265.00	-
Balance with Revenue Authorities	1,868.74	879.74
Total	2,133.74	1,179.74
Note 9 : Donations Received		
Donations and Grants	19,581.26	8,419.01
Total	19,581.26	8,419.01
Note 10 : Other Income		
Service Income	10,290.00	6,877.50
Interest income	67.30	-
Total	10,357.30	6,877.50
Note 11 : Project Expenses		
Honorarium	1,120.00	2,045.00
Professional Fee	10,435.40	8,571.00
Boarding & Lodging Expenses	436.40	595.37
Travel Expenses	4,962.73	3,713.09
Program & Training Material	2,871.86	1,034.31
Food Expenses	1,659.41	310.90
Other Project Related Expenses	690.84	603.98
Total	22,176.64	16,873.65
Note 12 : Establishment Expenses		
Professional Fees	1,876.20	2,088.60
Printing & Stationary	90.36	430.80
Office Expense	153.20	511.35
Rent, Rates & Taxes	-	4.51
Audit fees	236.00	-
Payment gateway charges	51.90	42.50
Repairs & Maintenance	123.00	148.43
Website maintenance charges	75.00	-
Other Admin expenses	9.99	103.89
ROC filing expenses	946.50	-
Profession tax payment	25.00	-
Interest on TDS	0.90	-
Bank Charges	1.30	3.67
Total	3,589.36	3,333.75

FIG TREE NATURALIST FOUNDATION
(A Private Limited Company under Section 8 of The Companies Act, 2013)

Note 19: Disclosure of Ratios

a) Current ratio = Current assets divided by current liabilities

Particulars	As at March 31, 2024	As at March 31, 2023
Current assets	3,560	3,249
Current liabilities	2,131	5,993
Ratio	1.67	0.54
% change from previous year		208%

Reason for change more than 25% : Reason for

b) Debt-Equity Ratio = Total debt divided by total equity where total debt represents aggregate of current and non-current borrowings

Particulars	As at March 31, 2024	As at March 31, 2023
Total debt	-	-
Total equity(including reserves)	-471	-
Ratio	-	-
% change from previous year	NA	

Reason for change more than 25% : Not Applicable

c) Debt Service Coverage Ratio = Earnings available for debt service divided by debt service

Particulars	As at March 31, 2024	As at March 31, 2023
Particulars		
Profit/(loss) before tax	-	-
Add:		
Depreciation and amortisation expense	-	-
Finance cost	-	-
Earnings available for debt services	-	-
Interest payments	-	-
Principal repayments	-	-
Total interest and principal repayments	-	-
Ratio	NA	NA
% change from previous year	NA	

Reason for change more than 25% : Not Applicable

FIG TREE NATURALIST FOUNDATION
(A Private Limited Company under Section 8 of The Companies Act, 2013)

d) Return on Equity ratio = Profit after tax divided by average shareholder's equity

Particulars	As at March 31, 2024	As at March 31, 2023
Profit after tax	-	-
Average shareholder's equity (refer note below)	-	-
Ratio	NA	NA
% change from previous year	Not Applicable	

Reason for change more than 25% : Not Applicable

e) Trade receivables turnover ratio = Net credit sales divided by average trade receivables

Particulars	As at March 31, 2024	As at March 31, 2023
Net Credit Sales (refer note 1 below)	-	-
Average trade receivables (refer note 2 below)	-	-
Ratio	-	-
% change from previous year	NA	

Note: Average trade receivables = (Total trade receivables as at beginning of respective year + total trade receivables as at end of respective year) divided by 2

Reason for change more than 25% : Variance due to no sales in the current year.

f) Trade payables turnover ratio = Purchases divided by average trade payables

Particulars	As at March 31, 2024	As at March 31, 2023
Purchases (refer note 1 below)	-	-
Average trade payables (refer note 2 below)	-	-
Ratio	NA	NA
% change from previous year	Not Applicable	

Note:

1. Purchases includes purchase of services

2. Average trade payables = (Total Trade Payables as at beginning of respective year + Total Trade Payables as at end of respective year) divided by 2

Reason for change more than 25% : Not Applicable

FIG TREE NATURALIST FOUNDATION

(A Private Limited Company under Section 8 of The Companies Act, 2013)

g) Net capital turnover ratio = Net sales divided by average working capital

Particulars	As at March 31, 2024	As at March 31, 2023
Revenue from operations	-	-
Working capital (refer note below)	1,429	(2,744)
Ratio	-	-
% change from previous year	-	-

Note: Working capital = Current assets - Current liabilities

Reason for change more than 25% : Variance due to no sales in the current year.

h) Net profit ratio = Net profit after tax divided by revenue from operations

Particulars	As at March 31, 2024	As at March 31, 2023
Net profit after tax	-	-
Revenue from operations	-	-
Ratio	NA	NA
% change from previous year	Not Applicable	Not Applicable

Reason for change more than 25% : Not Applicable

i) Return on Capital employed = Earnings before interest and taxes (EBIT) divided by capital employed

Particulars	As at March 31, 2024	As at March 31, 2023
Earnings before interest and taxes (refer note 1b)	-	-
Capital employed (refer note 2 below)	-	-
Ratio	NA	NA
% change from previous year	Not Applicable	Not Applicable

Note:

1. EBIT = Profit before taxes + finance cost

2. Capital employed = Total equity + total debt - deferred tax assets

Reason for change more than 25% : Not Applicable

Note 20: Other Statutory Information

- (i) The Company does not have any immovable properties (other than properties where the Company is the lessee and the lease agreements are duly executed in favour of the lessee) whose title deeds are not held in the name of the Company.
- (ii) The Company has not revalued its property, plant and equipment and intangible assets.
- (iii) The Company does not have any loans or advances in the nature of loans granted to promoters, directors, KMPs and the related parties either severally or jointly with any other person, that are (a) repayable on demand or (b) without specifying any terms or period of repayment.

FIG TREE NATURALIST FOUNDATION
(A Private Limited Company under Section 8 of The Companies Act, 2013)

- (iv) No proceedings have been initiated on or are pending against the Company for holding benami property under the Benami Transactions (Prohibition) Act, 1988 (45 of 1988) and Rules made thereunder.
- (v) The Company does not have any borrowings from banks or financial institutions that are secured against current assets.
- (vi) The Company has not been declared as wilful defaulters by any bank or financial institution or government or any other government authority.
- (vii) The Company does not have any transactions with companies struck off under section 248 of the Companies Act, 2013 or section 560 of Companies Act, 1956.
- (viii) The Company does not have any charges or satisfaction which is yet to be registered with Registrar of Companies (ROC) beyond statutory period.
- (ix) The Company has complied with the number of layers prescribed under clause (87) of section 2 of the Act read with Companies (Restriction on number of Layers) Rules, 2017
- (x) The Company has not entered into any scheme of arrangement as per sections 230 to 237 of the Companies Act, 2013.
- (xi) No funds have been advanced or loaned or invested (either from borrowed funds or share premium or any other sources or kind of funds) by the Company to or in any other persons or entities, including foreign entities ("Intermediaries"), with the understanding, whether recorded in writing or otherwise, that the Intermediary shall directly or indirectly lend or invest in other persons or entities identified in any manner whatsoever ("Ultimate Beneficiaries") by or on behalf of the Company or provide any guarantee, security or the like to or on behalf of the Company.
- (xii) The Company has not received any fund from any party(s) or entity(ies), including foreign entities (Funding Party) with the understanding (whether recorded in writing or otherwise) that the Company shall a) directly or indirectly lend or invest in other persons or entities identified in any manner whatsoever by or on behalf of the Company (Ultimate Beneficiaries) or b) provide any guarantee, security or the like on behalf of the Ultimate Beneficiaries.
- (xiii) The Company does not have any such transaction which is not recorded in the books of accounts that has been surrendered or disclosed as income during the year in the tax assessments under the Income Tax Act, 1961 (such as, search or survey or any other relevant provisions of the Income Tax Act, 1961.)
- (xiv) The Company has not traded or invested in Crypto currency or virtual currency during the financial year.

Note 21: Information with regard to other matters specified in Schedule III of the Act, is either Nil or not applicable to the Company for the year

As per our Report of even date attached

For S. P Gupta & Associates
Chartered Accountants
(Firm Reg no 103445W)

For and on behalf of Board of Directors

(Preeti Parasrampur) Partner
Membership No 131204
Mumbai
Date : 05-09-2024

(Priya Venkiteswaran) (Neharika Vohra)
Director Director
DIN: 02319433 DIN: 06808439

FIG TREE NATURALIST FOUNDATION

(A Private Limited Company under Section 8 of The Companies Act, 2013)

Notes forming part of the Financial Statements

13 Related Parties Disclosure

A List of related parties and relationship

Key Management Personnel (KMP)

Priya Venkiteswaran (Director)

Neharika Vohra (Director)

Note : Related Parties are as disclosed by the management and relied upon by the auditors.

B Details of related party transactions

	For the year ended 31 March, 2024	For the year ended 31 March, 2023
Professional Fees:		
Priya Venkiteswaran (Director)	9,000	6,615
	9,000	6,615

14 Earnings per share

Computation of earnings per share (basic and diluted)	31 March 2024	31 March 2023
Net profit attributable to equity share holders Weighted average number of equity shares of Rs. 10 each outstanding during the year Basic and diluted earnings per share (Face value per equity share of Rs 10 each)* *	4,173	(4,911)
(amount in absolute figures)	200	200
	20.86	(24.55)

15 Contingent liabilities and commitments (to the extent not provided for)

	31 March 2024	31 March
Contingent liabilities not provided for	Nil	2023
Capital Commitments	Nil	Nil Nil

16 Earning and expenses in foreign currency

	31 March 2024	31 March 2023
Expenditure in Foreign Currency	Nil	Nil
Earnings in Foreign Currency: (Donation Recvd)	Nil	NIL

17 Dues to micro and small suppliers

The Company has no amounts due to suppliers under Micro, Small and Medium enterprises Development Act, 2006 as at 31 March 2024.

18 Prior year comparatives

The previous year figures have also been regrouped and reclassified wherever necessary to conform to current year's classification

*"The smallest creatures
often hold the key to the
grandest mysteries of
our ecosystems."
– Rachel Carson*





The same stream of life that runs through my veins night and day runs through the world and dances in rhythmic measures. It is the same life that shoots in joy through the dust of the earth in numberless blades of grass and breaks into tumultuous waves of leaves and flowers.

65
RABINDRANATH TAGORE



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The Naturalist School

**Project office, 18th Cross, Malleshwaram, BWSSB (CJF Campus),
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