

PARAMBIKULAM TIGER CONSERVATION FOUNDATION

REPORT FOR THE PERIOD FROM 01-06-2014 TO 31-03-2015

Introduction

Parambikulam Tiger Conservation Foundation was established as per vide G.O (MS) No.87/2013/F&WLD dated 20.09.2013 and as per Section 38 X of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, in observance of the procedures laid down in Notification No. S.O.1008 (E) dated 22.06.2007 of Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India.

Government of Kerala vide G.O (Rt) No.473/2013/F&WLD dated 22.11.2013 have also approved the Regulations of the Foundation. Subsequently, the Parambikulam Tiger Conservation Foundation was registered by the Board of Trustees under the Charitable and Religious Trust Act, 1920 on 6th January 2014.

Vide G.O (MS) No.38/2014/F&WLD dated 22.04.2014, Government of Kerala has also authorised Parambikulam TCF to augment and mobilize financial resources including recycling of entry and such other fees received in Parambikulam Tiger Reserve to foster stakeholder development and eco-tourism in accordance with the provisions of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and also in observance of provisions contained in G.O (MS) No.87/2013/F&WLD dated 20.09.2013. Accordingly, a Bank Account (No.33824089274) with State Bank of India at Anamalai Branch, was opened in the name of Secretary, Executive Committee (Deputy Director, Parambikulam Tiger Reserve) of the Foundation. From 03.05.2014 onwards, the receipts from the Tiger Reserve are being collected in this Account.

Following two expert members have been appointed by the Government to the Governing Body of Parambikulam Tiger Conservation Foundation.

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1. Shri. E. Kunhikrishnan, Professor (Retd) Expert in the field of wildlife and biodiversity conservation

2. Shri. James Zacharias, Retired Forest Officer and Expert in the field of Social Science

The Governing Body of the Foundation in their first meeting held on 26.06.2014 approved the nomination of the following members to the Executive Committee of the Parambikulam Tiger Conservation Foundation.

a. Representatives from EDCs

1. Shri. Haridasan K, President, Earthdam EDC
2. Smt. Shyamili A, Member Sungam EDC

b. Members of Frontline staff

1. Shri. Jaya Prakash, Range Forest Officer, Sungam
2. Shri. Divakaran Unni, N.P. Section Forest Officer and PFM Divisional Coordinator

The Governing Body in their first meeting held on 26.06.2014, also approved the following members as representatives of Executive Committee to the Governing Body of the Parambikulam Tiger Conservation Foundation.

a. Representatives from EDCs

1. Shri. Haridasan K, President, Earthdam EDC

b. Members of Frontline staff

1. Shri. JayaPrakash, Range Forest Officer, Sungam

Activities of the Foundation

I. Administration

- a. **Meetings of Governing Body and Executive Committee:** During the reporting period, one meeting of the Governing Body (1st meeting held on 26th June 2014) and four meetings of the Executive Committee (1st meeting on 01.08.14, 2nd meeting on 23.09.14, 3rd meeting on 19.11.2014 and 4th meeting on 09.12.2014) were held.

- b. **Resource Mobilization:** Since the formation of the Foundation, an amount of Rs. 27,44,672/- has been collected by way of entry fees, revenue by way of accommodation charges in the Inspection Bungalows and Dormitory and Revenue from Sale of Book - "Along the trail of Salim Ali". The details are as follows:

Sl.No	Income	Amount
1	Revenue from Anappady Checkpost (5/2014 to 3/2015)	2,493,433
2	Revenue from Keerappady Checkpost (5/2014 to 3/2015)	69,000
3	Revenue from Ibs (Thunakadavu, Anappady)	93,372
4	Revenue from Dormitory (Anappady, Parambikulam)	82,300
5	Revenue from Sale of Book - "Along the trail of Salim Ali".	6,567
	Total	27,44,672

- c. **Administrative support:** Parambikulam TCF provided administrative support to the management of Parambikulam Tiger Reserve in the form of recoupable advances and management and technical inputs.
- d. **Staff:** The Forest Development Agency, Parambikulam has offered to hire and engage the following contracted professionals for the Foundation till the foundation become sound financially sound.
- Conservation Biologist (1 No)
 - Ecotourism cum Marketing Specialist (1No)
 - Accountant (1 No)
 - Office Assistant (1 No)

Action is underway for appointment of the above contracted staff.

II. Improved PA Management

As part of monitoring of wildlife and habitats of Parambikulam Tiger Reserve, the Foundation has assisted in conducting of two species surveys during the reporting period.

Survey of Spiders in PKMTR was conducted in the Reserve during 15-30 Oct 2014 with the technical expertise of resource persons from Centre for Animal Taxonomy and Ecology of Christ College, Irinjalakuda. The survey gave invaluable insights into the 'yet to be discovered' biological wealth of our natural habitats. Six new species of spiders were recorded from Parambikulam Tiger Reserve.



They include, net-casting spider of the genus, *Deinopis*, of the family, *Deinopidae*, a fishing spider of the genus, *Dolomedes*, A spider of the genus, *Calaenea*, a new species of the genus, *Haploclastus*, that a new species of the genus, *Stenaelurillus*, Green-spotted *Neoscona* spider of the family, *Araneidae* etc.



The net-casting spider spreads its web on its four legs and waits for the prey. When the prey comes close, the spider throws the web onto its body. The prey will be entangled in the sticky web and spider feeds on the prey. The twig-like spider is well camouflaged and very difficult to spot in the field.



The fishing spider lives in vegetation near water bodies and catches small fishes. It can be under water for a few minutes.

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Spider of the genus, *Calaenea* spotted in Parambikulam holds its legs close to the body and remains immobile. It resembles bird dropping. The spider catches its prey like an ambushing predator. Other species of genus *Calaenea* have so far been reported in the

Australian region. The spider of Haploclastus genus lives in potholes. A silk thread stretching out from the burrow will help it detect the presence of prey. The new species of the genus, Stenaelurillus, was special because of its contrasting red and blue line in the forehead region. It exhibits contrasting colours during nuptials.

More than 200 species of spiders were reported from the Reserve. Some species are endemic to Western Ghats, others are similar to those in the African region and yet others to those in the Malayan region.



Survey of Birds in PKMTR was conducted during 23-26 January 2015

The Bird survey was conducted in Parambikulam Tiger Reserve from 23.01.2015 to 26.01.2015 with the financial support of Parambiukulam Tiger Conservation Foundation. Over 100 members belonging to Forest departmental staff, antipoaching watchers of Parambikulam tiger Reserve, Naturalists of Parambikulam FDA and members of various NGOs and other bird experts from different part of Kerala has participated in the survey process.



There were 13 base camps identified on the basis of Bird habitat, vegetation, altitude etc. The newly added core areas of the Parambikulam Tiger Reserve from the adjoining divisions were also surveyed. Line Transect Method was adopted for the survey. A total two transects, each of 2 Kms



was covered for the each base camp. The survey process in each base camp was lead by a bird expert supported with two or three birder and two trackers.

In this survey 204 species of birds were identified and the checklist of birds of Parambikulam, prepared during the last survey was updated from recorded 230 species to 242 species. Out of 204 bird species indentified in the survey 12 species were newly reported in Parambikulam area in the current survey.



Photograph of the Painted Spur Fowl was obtained for the first time in Parambikulam area during the survey. All the eight Bulbul species of Kerala was reported in this survey. Yellow Throated Bulbul, Eurasian Cray-Martin, Long Billed Pipet are the other imported encounters in the survey.

III. Capacity Building and Training Programmes

A total of 18 f training /capacity building programmes were conducted during the reporting period. The details are given in the table below.

Sl. No	Date	No. of Days	Subject	Location	No. of Participants
1	14.02.14 to 16.02.14.	3	Orientation training programme for Range Officer Trainees	Anappady	30
2	14.07.14 to 16.07.14.	3	Orientation training programme for Range Officer Trainees	Anappady	32
3	12.08.14	1	Capacity Building for Ministerial staff	CF (WL), Pkd	36
4	20.08.14	1	Wildlife Law Enforcement Workshop	Kozhikkode	80
5	21.08.14	1	Capacity Building for Ministerial staff	CF (WL), Pkd	48
6	26.08.14	1	Orientation training on MGNREGS	Anappady	60
7	17.09.14	1	Community Forest Right Act	CF (WL), Pkd	80
8	13.10.14 to 15.10.14	3	Training to Newly recruited Tribal watchers	Anappady	35

9	27.10.14 to 31.10.14	5	Orientation training programme in Hospitality for Naturalists & orientation for guides and IB watchers of adjoining Divisions conducted by KITTS	Anappady	40
10	11.11.14	½	Workshop on Human-wildlife conflict for sensitizing media persons	Kozhikode	35
11	12.11.14	½	Workshop on Human-wildlife conflict for sensitizing media persons	Thiruvananthapuram	50
12	09.12.14	1	Awareness class for ROs, SFOs, EDC members (on PTCF?)	Anappady	42
13	19.12.14	1	Training on CPWD	CF (WL), Pkd	80
14	04.02.15 & 10.02.15	2	Training on KSR for field staff	Anappady	20
15	05.02.15 to 07.02.15	3	PFM Training for EDC/VSS Secretary & FDA Co-ordinators	Peechi	60
16	28.11.14 to 30.11.14	3	Training programme on Bird identification for staff, watchers and naturalists	Anappady	23
17	19.02.15 to 20.02.15	2	Training on CrPC, IPC, Evidence Act & Intelligence gathering for protective staff	Anappady	40
18	12.3.15 to 13.03.15	2	Orientation programme and field trip to the Dy. FROs of Walayar School	Anappady	30

Orientation Training programme on Implementation of MGNREGS

In Parambikulam Tiger Reserve, with the objective of providing additional livelihood support for the tribal people, MGNREGS schemes is being implemented for the past 3-4 years, in collaboration with Muthalamada Panchayat. During the financial year 2013-14 the works implemented under MGNREGS in Parambikulam constitutes around 15% of the total work implemented by entire Muthalamada Panchayath.



To further strengthen the implementation of MGNREGS and to create awareness among newly recruited Department staff and also EDC members, One day training programme was organized by the Parambikulam Tiger Conservation Foundation in association with Muthalamada Panchayath Authorities on 26.08.2014. Muthalamada Panchayat President, Parambikulam Ward Member, Block Programme Officer (MGNREGS), Asst. Engineer, MGNRES and Deputy Director, Parambikulam were presented. Around 30 participants including representatives from difference tribal colonies and Section Forest Officers from all 13 Sections and Range Forest Officers attended the training programme. The training was inaugurated by Muthalamada Panchayat President. Deputy Director, Parambikulam briefed about the importance of inter departmental convergence in implementing popular schemes like MGNREGS. Block Programme Officer, MGNREGS explained various aspects like provisions of the scheme, procedure in implementation, preparation of estimates, submission of NMR etc. Departmental staff and EDC members cleared their doubts during the open discussion.



Awareness Programme on Tiger Conservation Foundation

With the objective of creating awareness among the EDC members and also Departmental staff about the functioning of the Parambikulam Tiger Conservation Foundation, one day training programme was conducted at Anappady on 09.12.2014. Around 40 members participated in this training programme. Conservator of Forests (WL) Sri. Pramod G Krishnan, IFS who is also the Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Foundation explained the details about various legal provisions, different committees, aims and objectives and functions of the foundation. It was followed by open discussion where different stakeholder expressed their views and their expectations from the Foundation.



Orientation Programme on Hospitality for IB Watchers and Naturalists

The five day training programme was organized by the Parambikulam Tiger Conservation Foundation in association with Kerala Institutes for Travel and Tourism Studies (KITTS).



There were 40 participants, who are IB watchers and Naturalists from Silentvalley National Park, Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary, Peechi-Chimmony WLS, Aralam WLS, and Parambikulam Tiger Reserve. The five day programme had the following sessions.



Programme Schedule	
9.30 am	Inauguration
09.45 am	Briefing of the Training
Day 1	
Technical Session 1	
10.00 am – 11.30 am	Tourism in natural areas
11.30 am – 11.45 am	Tea Break
11.45 am – 1.15pm	Communication Skills
1.15 pm – 2.00 pm	Lunch Break
Technical Session 2	
2.00 pm – 3.30pm	Front Office Management
3.30 pm – 3.45 pm	Tea Break
3.45 pm – 5.15 pm	Communication & Guest Relations Skills
Day 2	
Technical Session 1	
10.00 am – 11.30 am	Food Production (Basics)
11.30 am – 11.45 am	Tea Break
11.45 am – 1.15pm	Food Safety & Personal Hygiene
1.15 pm – 2.00 pm	Lunch Break
Technical Session 2	
2.00 pm – 3.30pm	Practical Sessions (Basic food Production methods) availing the facilities of guest house
3.30 pm – 3.45 pm	Tea Break
3.45 pm – 5.15 pm	Mock Training on Food Safety & Personal Hygiene
Day 3	
Technical Session 1	
10.00 am – 11.30 am	Food & Beverage Service
11.30 am – 11.45 am	Tea Break
11.45 am – 1.15pm	Table Manners & Etiquettes
1.15 pm – 2.00 pm	Lunch Break
Technical Session 2	
2.00 pm – 3.30pm	Practical Sessions (Basic Food & Beverage Service methods) availing the facilities of guest house
3.30 pm – 3.45 pm	Tea Break
3.45 pm – 5.15 pm	Role play session
Day 4	
Technical Session 1	

10.00 am – 11.30 am	Housekeeping
11.30 am – 11.45 am	Tea Break
11.45 am – 1.15pm	Methods of housekeeping
1.15 pm – 2.00 pm	Lunch Break
Technical Session 2	
2.00 pm – 3.30pm	Practical Sessions in Housekeeping(availing the facilities of guest house)
3.30 pm – 3.45 pm	Tea Break
3.45 pm – 5.15 pm	Role play session
Day 5	
Technical Session 1	
10.00 am – 11.30 am	Basic First Aid and Life Saving Techniques
11.30 am – 11.45 am	Tea Break
11.45 am – 1.15pm	Personality Development
1.15 pm – 2.00 pm	Lunch Break
Technical Session 2	
2.00 pm – 3.30pm	Manners and Etiquette & Soft skills
3.30 pm – 3.45 pm	Tea Break
3.45 pm – 5.15 pm	Interaction, feedback & Valedictory

Induction training to newly recruited Tribal Watchers

The Kerala Forest Department had recruited 300 watchers belonging to Tribal Community under Special Recruitment drive. There was no provision to them to get trained in the Forest School. With the objective of providing them a brief insight in to the functioning of the



Department and to create awareness among them about the service and other aspects in the Department, Three day training programme was organized by the Parambikulam Tiger Conservation foundation from 13.10.2014 to 15.10.2014. A total of 35 newly inducted watchers belonging to Parambikulam, Silentvalley, Nemmara, Palakkad and



Mannarkkad Divisions participated in this training. The training programme included the following training schedule.

Date	Time	Subject	Resource person
13.10.14	6.30 am to 8.30 am	PT & Parade	Sri. K.Jayaprakash, AWLW, Sungam Range
	9.30 am- 10 am	Inaugural Function	
	10 am-11 am	Organisational structure of Forest Department	Sri.B.R. Jayan, AWLW, Bhavani Range.
	11.am -11.15 am	Tea break	
	11.15am -1 pm	My experience	Sri.M.JRaghavan SFO, Wayanad
	1 pm -2 pm	Lunch break	
	2 pm -3 pm	Motivational talk	Sri. Ajayakumar, BFO
14.10.14	3pm-4 .30 pm	Wildlife conservation and protected areas	Sri.Manoj AWLW, Parambikulam
	5pm -6.30 pm	Games	Sri.JayaprakashAWLW, Sungam& team
	6.30 am -8 am	PT & Parade	Sri. K.Jayaprakash, AWLW, Sungam Range
	10.30am -11 am	Forest Fire and its control	Sri. Johnson,AWLW,Karimala
	11.am-11.15am	Tea break	
	11.15 am -1 pm	KSR (salary , leave, service, disciplinary actions)	Sri.Mohandas, Head Accountant, PKMTR
	1 pm – 2 pm	Lunch break	
15.10.14	2 pm -4.30 pm	Service book registration	Sri. Narayanankutty, Junior Supdt., PKMTR
	5 pm-7pm	Games	Parade team
	6.30 am- 8 am	PT & Parade	Parade team
	10.30 am – 10.45 am	Tea break	
	10.45 am – 11.45 am	Duties and responsibilities of a forest watcher	Sri.Renjith, RFO, Nelliampathy
	11.45 am-1pm	Forest and its importance	Sri.Anuraj.VAWLW, Orukomban
	1 pm-2 pm	Lunch break	
	2pm - 3pm	Forest related laws	Sri.Joshil.M, AWLW,Silent Valley.
	3pm-4pm.	Feed back	

Training programme on Bird Identification for Staff, Watchers and Naturalists

To develop expertise on bird identification among the Department staffs, antipoaching watchers and Naturalists, three day Orientation classes on bird identification was conducted from 28.11.2014 to 30.11.2014. 40 participants



took part in the training programme. Experts in Bird watching from Wayanad and other parts of Kerala were invited as resource persons. The book on Bird identification was



distributed for all the participants. Morning and evening field visits were done to familiarize the trainings with identification of different species of birds by their appearance, call and flight behavior.

Training on CRPc, IPC Evidence Act, Intelligence Gathering and Investigation for field staff

In the event of increasing new challenges in Forest Protection, it is necessary to equip the field staff with proper legal tools to tackle the newly arising issues in Forest Protection such as Maoist insurgency. In the light of this, the training programme was conducted from 19.02.2015 to 20.02.2015 at Anappady. 40 SFOs and BFOs of Parambikulam Tiger Reserve took part in the training.



Adv. Sri.Rajesh dealt upon the topics like CRPc, IPC and Evidence Act. DySP Sri. P.Vahid of Internal Security wing, Kerala Police, dealt on the topic of Intelligence gathering and Maoist insurgency.

Training on KSR for Protective Staff

To create awareness among the field staff about Kerala Service Rule, one day training programme was conducted at Anappady, for batch 20 field staffs on two different days. ie on 04.02.2015 and 10.02.2015. Sri. Mohandas, Retired Senior Superintendent, Kerala Forest Department was the resource person for the training programme. Various topics in the



service rules like duties of the staff, joining time, different types of leave, salary and allowances, GPF, pension, etc were dealt. The participants took active part in clearing their doubts related to the Service matter at the end of the training programme.

Training programme on PFM and FRA for EDC/VSS Secretary & FDA Co-ordinators

Participatory Forest Management is one of the key issue in protection and management of Forest areas. Over a couple of decades the protective staffs in the Forest Department are involved in PFM. To equip our protective staff in a much better way to carry out the PFM activities and to create awareness among them about the Forest Rights Act, three day training programme was conducted at Peechi. 60 BFOs/SFOs serving as Secretary in different VSS/EDC of Silentvalley National Park, Wayanad WLS, Aralam WLS, Peechi-Chimmony WLS, Chalakudy Division, Vazhachal Division, Nemmara Division and Parambikulam Tiger



Reserve participated in this training programme. The details of the programme and topics covered are as follows.

Date	Programme	Resource Person
05.02.2015	Basic concept of PFM, History of PFM, PFM in Kerala, Organisation structure of FDA, EDC/VSS and different committees	P.Vinod, Section Forest Officer, Thrissur Division
	Maintenance of different types of Registers, Forms, PRA Exercise, preparation of Micro plan, preparation of SSP and Estimate	P.Mohanakrishnan, Section Forest Officer, Mannarkkad Division
06.02.2015	Basics of Accounting, procedure in accounting, maintenance of Cash Book, Day Book, Ledger etc.	P.O.Appachan, Section Forest Officer, Malayattoor Division
	Hands on training on accounts keeping (Practical Session)	P.O.Appachan, Section Forest Officer, Malayattoor Division
07.02.2015	Awareness on Parambikulam Tiger Conservation Foundation	B.N.Anjankumar, IFS, Deputy Director, Parambikulam TR.
	Awareness on Community Forest Right	Tiju, Research fellow, WWF
	Feedback	

Conservator of Forests (WL) Sri. Pramod G Krishnan, IFS attended the general discussion and obtain feedback from the participants.

IV Ecodevelopment Activities

Awareness on Alcohol De-addiction

Parambikulam Tiger Conservation Foundation in Association with Kerala Excise Department had organized awareness camps on ill effects of alcohol consumption to promote alcohol de-addiction among tribal people. Excise Sub Inspector of Kollengode Range alongwith the staff





conducted awareness classes using different audio visual aids to give the message of harmful effects of alcohol and other narcotic drugs. The camps were conducted in all the six tribal colonies of Parambikulam in two day duration. Around 250 people, altogether took part in this programme. The respective EDCs had coordinated the

awareness camps.

Awareness on Postal life insurance and Postal Savings Schemes

Parambikulam Tiger Conservation Foundation in association with Indian Postal Department, Palakkad Division had organized awareness camps on Social Security Scheme (Rural Postal Life Insurance) small savings Scheme(SB,RD,TD and MIS) among Tribal peoples in Parambikulam. This has paved way to the inhabitants of the area to know more about the products available with the Post Office , the facilities of which can be enjoyed at the door steps in the wake of no other financial institutions prevailing in the area and the only means is Post Office.

This is the first time that the service is brought to door step of tribal people as an effort of collaboration between Postal Department and Forest Department. A team comprising of Postal Department staff and Forest Department staff visited all the settlements and took up door to door awareness campaign.





Postal people at work in Kuriyarkutty Colony

Result of the Activities is as follows:

Location	Rpli	Recurring Deposit	Time Deposit	Monthly Income Scheme
Poopara Colony	17	9	4	5
Earth Dam Colony	23	13	-	-
Fifth Colony	18	7	-	-
Kadavu Colony	27	18	3	2
Pap Colony	7	22	2	6
Kuriyarkutty Colony	55	25	-	3
Chungam Colony	43	20	-	-
Thekkadi-Allimooan	9	2		

Fire Awareness Camp at Parambikulam, Thekkady, Thalikkakal and Kalchady

A fire awareness rally was conducted on 6/2/2015 at Parambikulam. About 150 persons including School students, Teachers, Forest Officials, Officials of various other departments of both Kerala and Tamilnadu states, Naturalists, Watchers and local people were participated in the procession. The procession started about 9 am in the morning. They



carried placards and banners depicting slogans regarding forest conservation and its importance. Teachers, Student representatives, Police officials, PHC officials and the PAP officials appreciated the way the forest is being protected and pointed out the importance of protection and conservation of forests.

Similar type of camps conducted at tribal colonies of adjoining Forest Division Nemmara.



Education Aid for Tribal Students

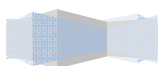
The Parambikulam TCF has been supporting the education of tribal students residing in tribal colonies of Parambikulam and also the adjoining Divisions. Financial assistance of Rs. 2,000/Each was provided for 4 students of Sungam Colony their higher studies. An amount of Rs. 14,700/- was provided to about 40 students of LP Tribal School, Allimooppan Tribal colony of Nemmara Division, towards the cost of stitching charges for their school uniform, during the reporting period.

Staff Welfare

As part of staff welfare activity, the books related to Kerala Service Rules and Birds of India Sub continent were purchased and distributed among the field staff.

IV. Expenditure Incurred by Parambikulam TCF for various activities

Out of the total income of Rs.27,44,672 of the Foundation, an amount of Rs. 605,298 has been spent so far for the various activities mentioned above. The details are as follows:



Sl. No	Activity	Expenditure (Rupees)
1	Research, Monitoring and Extention - 2 Nos.	85,654
2	Training and Staff Capacity Building including Field visit – 17 Nos.	3,53,572
3	Office Maintenance	95,472
4	Staff Welfare	40,900
5	Ecodevelopment Activities	
	b) Conducting awareness Camps – 1 No.	7,000
	c) Providing Educational Assistance to meritorious tribal students	22,700
	Total	605,298

