

# **ANNUAL REPORT 2021-22**



**PARAMBIKULAM  
TIGER CONSERVATION  
FOUNDATION**

**ANNUAL REPORT  
2021-22**



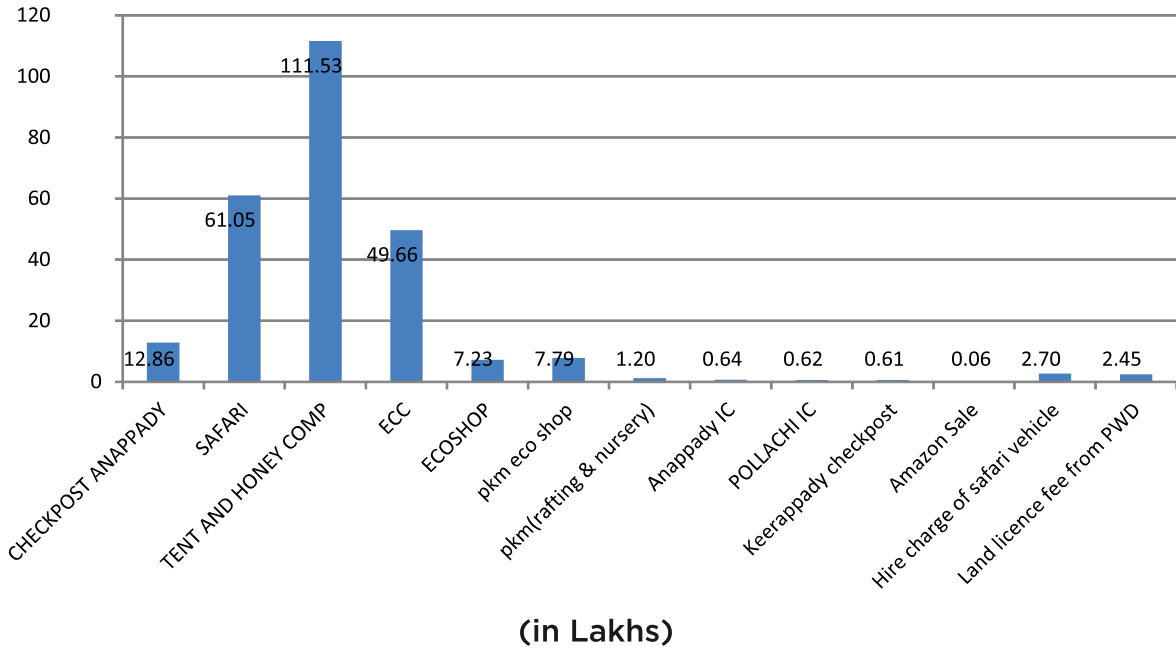
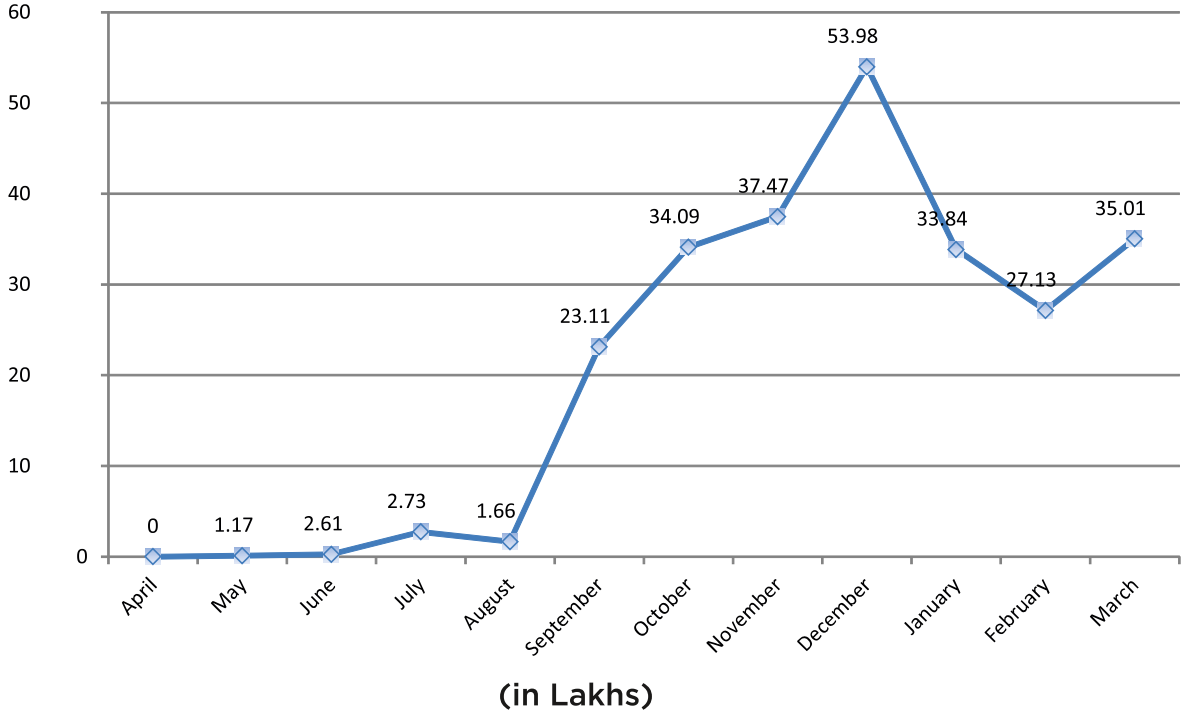
## Members of Governing Body During The Reporting Period

- 1 **Shri. A.K. SASEENDRAN**  
Hon'ble Minister for Forests,, Government of Kerala
- 2 **Shri. K. BABU**  
Hon'ble M.L.A., Nemmara
- 3 **Shri. T.J. SANEESH KUMAR JOSEPH**  
Hon'ble M.L.A, Chalakkudy
- 4 **Shri. RAJESHKUMAR SINHA, IAS**  
Principal Secretary, Forests & Wildlife
- 5 **Shri. P.K. KESAVAN, IFS**  
PCCF & Head of Forest Force
- 6 **Shri. BENNICHA THOMAS, IFS**  
PCCF & Chief Wildlife Warden
- 7 **Smt. BINUMOL K.**  
District Panchayath President, Palakkad
- 8 **Shri. P.K. DAVIS**  
District Panchayath President, Thrissur
- 9 **Shri. K. VIJAYANANTHAN, IFS**  
CCF (WL) & Field Director (PT), Palakkad (01.04.2021 to 01.09.2021)  
**Shri. K. V. UTHAMAN, IFS**  
CCF (WL) & Field Director (PT), Palakkad (01.09.2021 to 31.03.2022)
- 10 **Shri. S. VYSAK, IFS**  
Deputy Director (PT), Parambikulam Tiger Reserve
- 11 **Dr. M. AMRUTH**  
Scientist, Department of Sociology, KFRI
- 12 **Dr. SUMA VISHNUDAS**  
M.S. Swaminathan Foundation, Wayanad
- 13 **Shri. AJAYAN**  
Range Officer, Sungam Range (01.04.2021 to 21.09.21)  
**Shri. BABU N. M.**  
Range Officer, Sungam Range (15.11.2021 to 31.03.22)
- 14 **Shri. SREENIVASAN K.**  
Kadavu EDC, Parambikulam Tiger Reserve





# REVENUE OF PATCOF FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL 2021 TO MARCH 2022



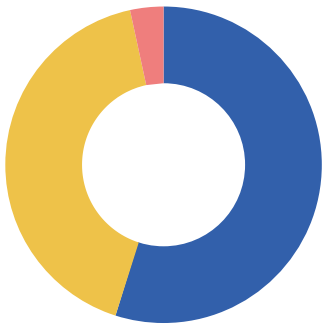
## TRAFFIC SPLIT ON ONLINE PAYMENT SYSTEM



### By Number of Payments

45.61%	Desktop	727
40.72%	Mobile	649
13.68%	Others	218

## TRAFFIC SPLIT ON ONLINE PAYMENT SYSTEM



### By Payment Volume

54.47%	Desktop	₹ 89.61L
42.11%	Mobile	₹ 69.28L
3.41%	Others	₹ 5.61L

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# PARAMBIKULAM TIGER CONSERVATION FOUNDATION REPORT FOR THE PERIOD FROM 01-04-2021 TO 31-03-2022

## A.Introduction

Parambikulam Tiger Conservation Foundation (PaTCoF) was established 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 authorized PaTCoF 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 the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and also in observance of provisions contained in G.O (MS) No.87/2013/F& WLDdated

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.

The following two expert members have been appointed by the Government to the Governing Body of Parambikulam Tiger Conservation Foundation in the 8th meeting of the Governing body.

1. Dr. Amruth M, Scientist, Department of Sociology, Forestry and Human dimension division, KFRI.
- 2.Dr. Suma. Scientist, M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation.

The Governing Body of the Foundation in their seventh meeting held on 21-06-2021 approved the nomination of the following members to the Executive Committee of the Parambikulam Tiger Conservation Foundation.

**a. Representatives from EDCs**

- Sri. Sreenivasan K, Kadavu Colony EDC
- Smt. Kasthuri, Sungam Colony EDC

**b. Members of Frontline staff**

- Range Forest Officer, Sungam Range
- PFM Divisional Coordinator

The Governing Body also approved the following members as representatives of Executive Committee to the Governing Body of the Parambikulam Tiger Conservation Foundation.

**a. Representatives from EDCs**

- Sri. Sreenivasan K, Kadavu Colony EDC

**b. Members of Frontline staff**

- Range Forest Officer, Sungam Range



# 1. ACTIVITIES OF THE FOUNDATION

## 2.1 Administration

During the reporting period, one meeting of the Governing Body (8th meeting held on 21st June 2021) and three meetings of the Executive Committee (28th meeting on 26.05.2021, 29th meeting on 23.10.2021 and 30th meeting on 05.2.2022) were held, at many instances during the reporting period meetings could not be held regularly due to lockdown restriction imposed in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.

## 2.2 Resource Mobilization

During the reporting year, Foundation has received a total amount of Rs. 1,38,63,141/- by way of entry fees, Eco tourism, Central/State Plan Schemes, bank interest, etc and expended Rs. 2,61,13,726/- for various activities in Annual Plan of Operation 2020-21 of PaTCoF approved in the 7th Governing body.

## 2.3 Administrative support and Staffing

PaTCoF provided administrative support to the management of Parambikulam Tiger Reserve in the form of recoupable advances and technical inputs. The same support was also extended to Forest Divisions in the immediate region and also in the greater landscape. The Forest Development Agency, Parambikulam has offered to hire and engage the following contracted professionals for the PaTCoF till it becomes financially sound.

- Conservation Biologist (1No)
- Ecotourism cum Marketing Specialist (1No)
- Accountant (1No)
- Office Assistant (1No)

## 2.4 IMPROVED PA MANAGEMENT

### 2.4.1 Phase III Monitoring – All India Tiger Estimation, 2021- 2022

Camera trap exercise was conducted as part of All India Tiger Population Estimation in Parambikulam Tiger Reserve, Kannur Division, Aralam Wildlife Sanctuary, Wayanad North Division, Wayanad South Division, Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary, Nilambur South Division, Silent Valley National Park and Nenmara Division. This exercise was carried out from September 2021 to November 2021. Camera

traps were deployed in 14 locations in Kannur, 18 locations in Aralam, 65 locations in Wayanad North, 45 Locations in Wayanad South, 209 locations in Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary, 50 locations in Nilambur South, 90 locations in Silent Valley, 40 locations in Nenmara and 253 locations in Parambikulam. A total of 784 locations were covered. Approximately 2.5 lakh photos were obtained from these locations. These were submitted to the National Tiger Conservation Authority for inclusion in the final report.



### 2.4.1 Eight Day Protocol – All India Tiger Estimation, 2021- 2022

Distance sampling through line Transect survey was conducted to estimate the density of prey species in Kasargode Kannur Division, Mannarkad Division, Palakkad Division, Nenmara Division, Chalakkudy Division, Vazhachal Division, Thrissur Division, Aralam Wildlife Sanctuary, Peechi-Chimmony Wildlife Sanctuary, Silent Valley National Park and Parambikulam Tiger Reserve as part of All India Tiger Population Estimation Programme. It was an eight-day programme that was scheduled from November 2021 to March 2022.



The survey was conducted in all the forest divisions of Kerala. Parambikulam Tiger Conservation foundation is coordinating the survey for the northern divisions of Kerala from Vazhachal forest division to Kasargode forest division. A total of 335 blocks and same number of transects were created for the survey. More than 500 field staffs have participated for the survey.

### 2.4.1 Herpetofaunal Survey

A herpatofaunal survey was conducted in Parambikulam Tiger Reserve to understand the status of amphibians and reptiles in the reserve. This survey was carried out from July to December 2021 in three phases to cover the active breeding time of the amphibians, Monsoon and Post monsoon seasons. Survey locations were select based on altitude forest types, vegetations and microhabitat conditions. The selected camps are Sheikkalmudi, Muthuvarachal, Karimala, Nelliampathy Thoothanpara and Kuchimudi. All the possible micro habitats in these locations were surveyed

using visual encounter method and frogs were also identified by their calls.

A total of 105 species of was recorded (61 amphibians and 44 reptiles) during the survey. 61 species of amphibians belonging to two orders and 10 families and a total of 44 species of reptiles belonging to 3 orders and 15 families were recorded. Out of the 61 species of amphibians, 3 critically endangered and 10 endangered species were recorded and 37 species are endemic to Western Ghats. Out of 44 species of reptiles recorded 3 are endangered 12 species are endemic to Western Ghats



### 2.4.1 Tiger database

Parambikulam Tiger reserve is maintaining a database of tigers identified from Parambikulam since 2011 and have counted 89 tigers so far in this landscape. The database serves a key role in identifying tigers which are photographed or found dead within Parambikulam or in adjoining areas. During February 2022, a tiger was found dead in Nelliampathy Division when it accidentally fell into a well. Parambikulam Tiger Conservation Foundation could lend its expertise in



identifying the tiger. It was a female tiger captured in camera traps from 2017 to 2021 and named as PKMTR 55.



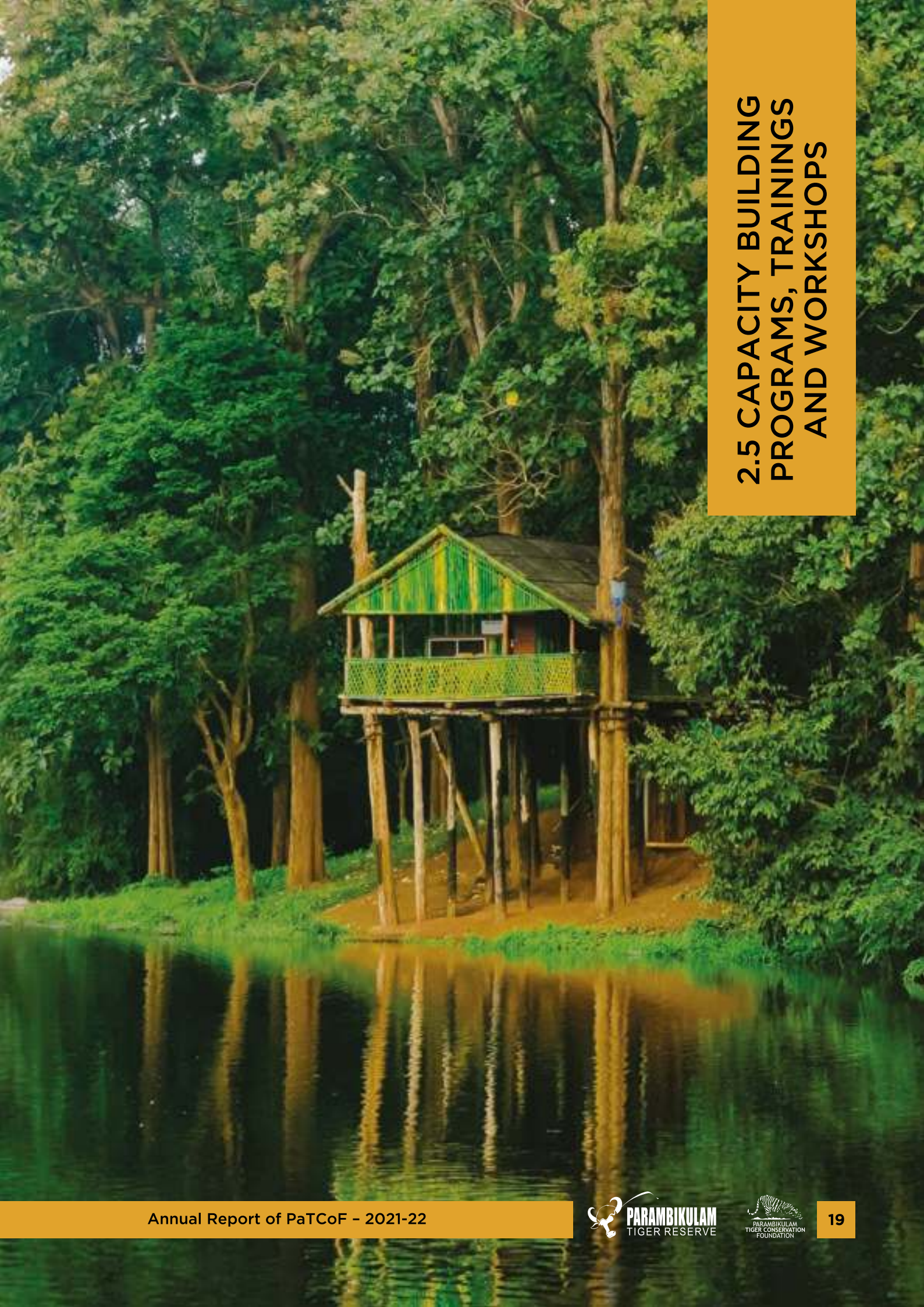
### 2.4.1 Recognizing the services of Best Performing Staff Members

PaTCoF recognized best performing staff members of Parambikulam Tiger Reserve during the reporting period. Best performing staff members were selected by a committee

and felicitated at the nature study hall in Anappady. The meritorious persons were selected from all categories on the basis of evaluation of their performance and exceptional contributions rendered for furthering the objectives of the Tiger Reserve and the foundation.



## 2.5 CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMS, TRAININGS AND WORKSHOPS



A total of 7 training/capacity building programs/workshops were undertaken during the reporting period. Many planned trainings and workshops had to be deferred due to COVID-19 restrictions. The details are as given below.

Sl No.	Date	Duration (days)	Topic/Subject	Location	No. of Participants
1	Sep to Nov	90	Training on Camera Trapping	Kannur Division, Aralam Wildlife Sanctuary, Wayanad South Division, Wayanad North Division, Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary, Nilambur South Division, Nenmara Division, Silent Valley National Park and Parambikulam Tiger Reserve	300
2	Sep to Feb	90	Trainings on Density Estimation of Prey Population	Kannur Division, Aralam Wildlife Sanctuary, Wayanad South Division, Wayanad North Division, Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary, Nilambur South Division, Nenmara Division, Silent Valley National Park and Parambikulam Tiger Reserve	300
3	04-01-2022	1	Fire Awareness Class	Nature Study Hall, Anappady	66
4	21-12-2021	1	Interactive training for Press Club Palakkad Members	Nature Study Hall, Anappady	22
5	08-12-2021	2	Skill Development training for the Naturalist	Nature Study Hall, Anappady	23
6	01-11-2021	Ongoing	Tailoring class	Parambikulam Tailoring unit	7

### 2.5.1 Training on Camera Trapping

Camera trap training sessions were conducted in Kannur Division, Aralam Wildlife Sanctuary, Wayanad South Division, Wayanad North Division, Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary, Nilambur South Division, Nenmara Division, Silent Valley National Park and Parambikulam Tiger Reserve as a part of All India Tiger Population Estimation. The training dealt with identification of camera trap locations, setting different modes in camera trap instruments and finally setting up of camera traps in the field. Participants were Section Forest Officers, Beat Forest Officer and Watchers.

The September 2021 to November 2021. The classes were broken in two sessions in morning and afternoon by strictly following the COVID-

19 protocol. More than 300 participants participated in the training. The training formed integral part of the All-India Tiger Estimation 2021-22. PaTCoF has lent its services in training and equipping almost all forest divisions of Northern Kerala in undertaking this exercise.



## 2.5.2 Training on Density Estimation of Prey Population

Training on Eight-day protocol was given to the field staffs of Kasargode Division, Kannur Division, Aralam Wildlife Sanctuary, Silent Valley National Park, Mannarkad Division, Palakkad Division, Nenmara Division,



Chalakkudy Division, Vazhachal Division, Peechi-Chimmony Wildlife Sanctuary and Parambikulam tiger Reserve prior to the field survey.

About 450 participants from amongst the Section Forest Officers, Beat Forest Officers and Watchers were involved in the training programme. The sessions included the importance of eight-day protocol, conducting sign survey and transect survey, familiarization with the Ecological module of the M-STRIPEs app and field data collection. Apart from this, a small briefing of their blocks was also provided. The training formed integral part of the All-India Tiger Estimation 2021-22. PaTCoF has lent its services in training and equipping almost all forest divisions of Northern Kerala in undertaking this exercise.

## 2.5.3 Training on Personal Safety and Fire fighting

PaTCoF conducted a one-day workshop on fire safety and fire-fighting for the field staffs of Parambikulam Tiger Reserve at Anappady, Parambikulam Tiger Reserve. The session was coordinated with the help of Kerala Fire and Rescue Department, Palakkad. Sessions were handled by experienced Officers. About 66 field staffs participated in the training from Parambikulam Tiger Reserve. Many queries related to general firefighting methods and the equipment used could be cleared with the help of these sessions. This also served as an important reminder in taking care of personal safety while preparing oneself for the upcoming fire season.



## 2.5.4 Workshop on Nature conservation and its importance

Parambikulam Tiger Conservation Foundation organized a one-day workshop on Nature conservation and its relevance to members of Press Club Palakkad. The Sessions were handled by Dr. Satheesh Chandran, where he explained the purpose, history and methods of conservation and its importance in future.



DFO Palakkad, Deputy Director, Parambikulam Tiger Reserve, Deputy Director, Wildlife Education and Technical Assistant to Chief Conservator of Forests (WL) North also participated. Sessions were also held for the 22 protection staffs of Parambikulam Tiger Reserve. The Press Club Members were also taken on an interpretive trek through the forests of Parambikulam.



### 2.5.5 Skill Development Training for the naturalist

PaTCoF conducted 2-day refresher workshop for the naturalists in order to develop their interpretive skills and interpersonal communication with guests. The participants were 23 naturalists of Parambikulam Tiger Reserve. Sessions covered topics such as visitor management, guiding skills, and interpretative skills. Classes were conducted in a peer learning mode where naturalists acted as facilitators for different sessions. A session was also conducted by the Deputy Director of Parambikulam Tiger Reserve.

### 2.5.6 Tailoring class

PaTCoF is continually organising tailoring classes for young women of Ancham colony tribal hamlet. 7 members are being trained under this program from November of 2021. The purpose of this program is to equip them with a skill that has the potential to improve their livelihoods





## 2.6 ECO DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

### 2.6.1 Campaign on importance of women health and hygiene

At the peak of the COVID-19 lockdown, on receiving reports regarding shortages of womens' sanitary products in various hamlets of Parambikulam and adjoining areas, PaTCoF conducted a campaign in this regard. Womens' sanitary products were procured from Jan Oushadi and distributed free of cost. The initiative was led by lady officers of the Tiger Reserve. They also facilitated sensitisation classes on importance of women health and hygiene to residents of tribal hamlets of Parambikulam. PaTCoF distributed a total of 30000 hygiene pads to the women in the 8 tribal hamlets.



### 2.6.2 Grant to NEDC

PaTCoF allotted a grant of Rs. 2 lakhs to NEDC for augmenting their microfinance activities. NEDC is providing loans to their members with a nominal interest acting as an important source of low-cost finance to the tribal population for their various needs.

### 2.6.3 Engaging education coordinator

During the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic all the schools in the state were closed and tribal students of Parambikulam had returned to their hamlets. With limited resources and network connectivity, students of various tribal hamlets in Parambikulam Tiger Reserve faced difficulty in attending online classes. PaTCoF engaged an education coordinator to address these issues and to facilitate continued education of the students of Parambikulam.

### 2.6.4 Engaging a teacher at Sungam Tribal Lower Primary School

Sungam Tribal LP school is at present functioning under the guidance of a Head master and one teacher. PaTCoF has taken the onus upon itself to engage one teacher, who is resident of Sungam Colony and has adequate training, at the school in order to assist with the day to day functioning. The person continued to be engaged during vacation time also in order to interact with students and to ensure that they continue to engage in activities that help with their overall development.

### 2.6.5 Vanamahotsavam

PaTCoF celebrated Vanamahotsavam during the reporting period. Through this program, PaTCoF inspired members of the indigenous communities to plant trees saplings in and around their settlements by providing the same free of cost. 7470 saplings have been planted in various locations within the Tiger Reserve. Out of those 5000 saplings were produced internally in the Parambikulam nursery. Remaining 2470 saplings were acquired from Social Forestry Palakkad Division. Erosion prone areas in the Parambikulam Tiger Reserve were identified and service of EDC members were utilised to carry out planting drives in these locations. Basic protection from foraging by animals was provided using bamboo.



## 2.6.6 Career guidance program

PaTCoF facilitate a two day career guidance seminar for young residents of Parambikulam. The session primarily focused on preparations for PSC examination and how to have the right mindset to clear competitive examinations.

## 2.6.7 Distribution of Masks and Sanitisers

PaTCoF in association with WWF, India, provided masks and sanitisers to all tribal hamlets of Parambikulam Tiger Reserve. The program was held during the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic and the distribution events were also awareness drives on the proper usage of these products, how to maintain social distancing and personal hygiene. A total of 1000 cloth masks, 5000 surgical masks, 10 Nos. of vaporisers and 60 litres of sanitiser were distributed in hamlets in and around Parambikulam Tiger Reserve.

## 2.6.8 Distribution of Musical instruments to the Ancham colony tribal settlement

Anjam colony tribal settlement is home to the Malamalsar community of Parambikulam. Malamalsar community is also known as Mahamalsar and Malaimalsar were traditionally a nomadic tribe, who shifted frequently within a small area. The Mahamalsar name has originated from the combination of the Tamil words Arasan (king) and Mala or Malai (hill) thereby meaning King of the Forests. They



used to live in small huts of rudimentary construction, the corners supported on trees or rocks - these settlements are called Chalai. In days of yore, they were also known to take shelter under over-hanging rocks or in the hollows of trees, preferring to locate their huts

on precipitous slopes, to escape from the wild elephants as well as the westerly winds. This community are primarily inhabitants of the forests of Palakkad district and adjoining forests of Coimbatore district of Tamil Nādu.

They speak a dialect of their own, which is a mixture of Tamil and Malayalam along with others. The major natural resource of the Mahamalsar is the forest, and collection of forest produce for consumption and barter was the mainstay of their way of life.

They worship spirits believing that the dead live inside huge trees and in wild animals. They hold that human misdeeds are corrected by the laws of the wild. They worship forest gods and goddesses, trees, mountain peaks and rivers and symbolize them as Kattu Atha, in the shape of stones. More recently, they worship Vandadra Kalliamman, Banathi Amman (Banaru is a local stream), Perungunruamman (Perungundu being the highest peak of this area visible from Thunacadavu and Parambikulam reservoirs) and Ponnalammann. They offer sweet pongal to goddess Banathi Amman during the Tamil month of Thai (January). Their rich oral traditions of songs and dances draw inspiration from the forest and wildlife, performed by men and women using their own percussion musical instruments like pottu, peepi, urumai, etc.

The musical instruments owned by the community were old and falling apart. PaTCoF took the initiative to purchase and distribute the same to the hamlet for common usage during the reporting period.



## 2.6.9 Registration as CSR implementing agency

PaTCoF has received the distinction of being the first organisation associated with Kerala Forest Department for implantation of CSR projects. PaTCoF applied for registration with Ministry of Corporate Affairs and obtained registration on 26.07.2021



## 2.6.10 Augmentation of Coir Root Trainer Unit under CSR project with assistance from GAIL

Kerala Forest Department is one of the prime and oldest departments of the State Government. Since inception the department has taken several initiatives for large scale afforestation in degraded forest lands and also in areas outside the forests for increasing the green cover. The social forestry wing of the department is involved in raising and distribution of seedlings to various institutions and organisations for planting in public and revenue areas annually. On an average 80.00 Lakhs to one crore seedlings were produced annually.

As per the existing practices, the seedlings are raised in nurseries using single use plastic polythene bags (12 cms x 18 cms) with 150-gauge thickness). This is practiced due to cost effectiveness, convenience of transportation and ease of planting by polythene bags. However, after the seedlings were taken out

from the polybag for planting, the polybag is cut-open and often left behind. The poly bags, albeit plastic, cannot be recycled as it has been damaged due to exposure to various elements during raising of seedlings in nursery and will be covered dirt. Due to its poor recycling capacity and improper disposal, it is causing plastic pollution in a substantial way. One kilogram of plastic required for production of 200 numbers of poly bags. Therefore, for raising and planting of one crore seedlings, 50,000 Kgs of plastic was being discarded into natural environment every year. These were choking our rivers, streams and other water sources and being ingested by wild animals and several reports of deaths of wild animals were also reported every year.

The Kerala Forest Department has been experimenting in various ways during the last decade to find alternatives to Plastic Poly Bags that were eco-friendly which included coconut shells, coir root trainer and bamboo containers. When it came to multiple aspects of cost-effectiveness, ease of transportation, ease of procurement, availability and other factors coir root trainers found to be more effective. In the planting season of 2019-20, the department experimented with root trainers made of natural coir fibres and found very promising. During the year 2021-22 planting season it was decided to increase the number of coir root trainer seedlings to 25 percent of whole production.

Since considering huge requirement and already Department started procuring the coir root trainers from private vendors, PaTCoF decided to develop a coir root trainer manufacturing unit on a pilot basis and installed small unit at Kerala Wildlife Tourism Centre at Pollachi by utilizing funds of PaTCoF during March 2021 and support of SFDA as interest free loan. The purpose behind this endeavour was to produce coir root trainers for supply to the Department. The unit was able to produce at least 2500 coir root trainers in a day and generate employment for at least 4 tribal persons. Raw material supply was an issue due to COVID-19 lockdowns and therefore the unit could not be operated on a daily basis. With the lockdown restrictions lifted, the unit is slated for continuous operation.

The coir root trainer unit gained much appreciation from all over the state and country with many enquiries coming from private

nurseries as well. The KWTIC centre at Pollachi is a property of Government of Kerala and having a distinct advantage that the raw material which is required for this product, is manufactured in this region; which is also a hub for all coir-based industries. The unit was inaugurated during International Day of Forests celebrations in 2021 (21-03-2021).

Under CSR initiative of GAIL, PaTCoF procured another machine, with 8-unit capacity to increase the production capacity of the facility. This facility was expanded by adding a working area to sort the raw material, to flatten it out and to prepare it for pressing under the moulding unit in order to produce the finished root trainers. A storage area was also developed

to store the raw material and finished product. Toilet facility has also been constructed in this unit to provide basic sanitation facility to workers engaged in this unit. The water available in the well present in the campus is hard, therefore under this proposal a water treatment plant was also installed, that can treat the hardness of the water to make it safely potable for the workers. Associated miscellaneous works such as plumbing and electrification also become part of the works.

This is the first CSR intervention of PaTCoF and Kerala Forest Department and PaTCoF is having the distinct honour of implementing the same.



### 2.6.11 COVID-19 Quarantine facility

As with elsewhere in the world, there was a COVID-19 pandemic outbreak in Parambikulam Tiger Reserve. PaTCoF stepped up to the occasion and arranged quarantine facility for patients at Tiger Hall building in Parambikulam. PaTCoF facilitated all the needs of the quarantined persons including sanitation, food, water and access to medical facilities.

### 2.6.12 Medical Assistance and Logistic Support

During the reporting period, PaTCoF provided medical assistance in the form of reimbursement of hospital expenditure for more than 10 members of the local community. In addition, financial support was also provided to promote institutional delivery among the community. The ambulance being operated under FDA continued its service throughout the reporting period. Logistic support was also provided to the local PHC for transporting pregnant women from the local community Palakkad for their monthly check-ups.



### 2.6.13 Educational Assistance

Students of Parambikulam has to face hurdles of distance, transportation and resources. So to pursue their education and therefore PaTCoF believed that students achieving success overcoming these challenges should be celebrated. To celebrate their success and to motivate them to continue their higher education, PaTCoF provided a financial grant to all students of Parambikulam who successfully completed their Secondary, Higher Secondary and Degree education this year. PaTCoF recognized 27 students from various tribal hamlets who passed Secondary education, 15 students who passed Higher Secondary education and 3 students who passed degree education at a felicitation ceremony. In addition, PaTCoF arranged scholarship support to three student from Anjam Colony Tribal Hamlet for college level education.

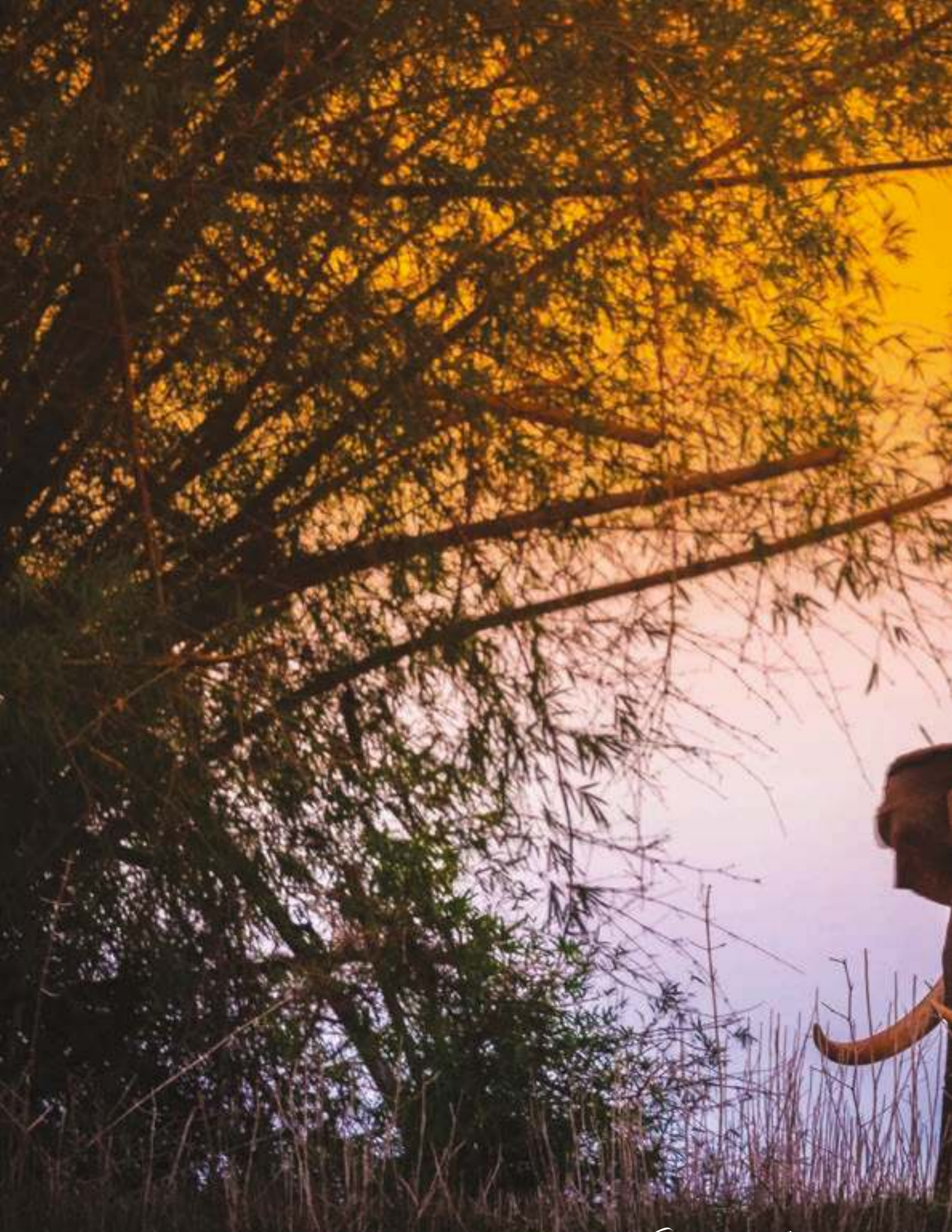
The donors were arranged through a public solicitation of interest through PaTCoF social media pages and thereby making such an arrangement for the first time in Parambikulam.

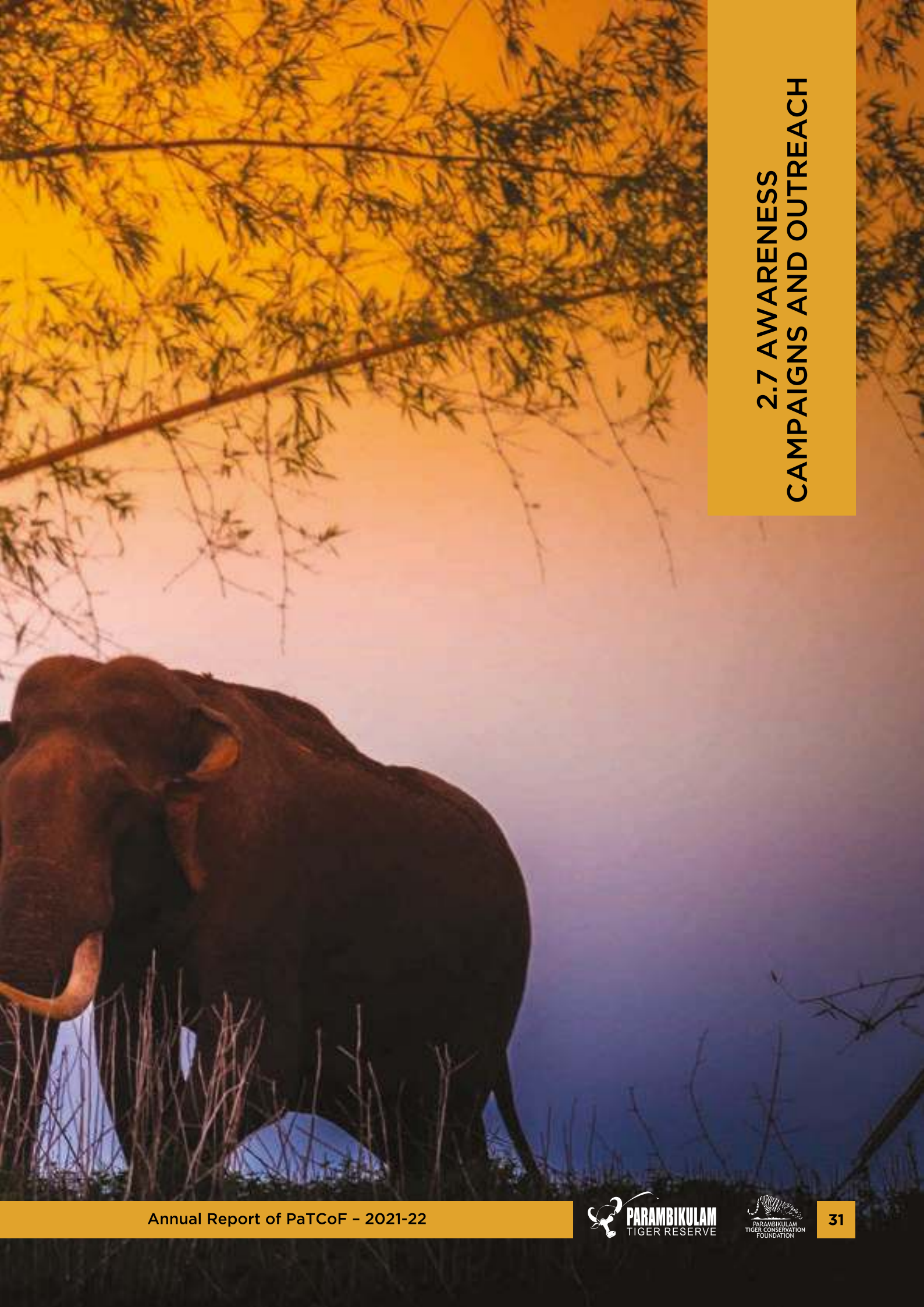


### 2.6.14 Disaster mitigation activities

PaTCoF actively support the Parambikulam administration is disaster avoidance and mitigation works in Parambikulam Tiger Reserve during the monsoons and fire season. The PaTCoF facilities were used for relocation of Poopara hamlet residents to Thoovayar APC during the monsoon season to avoid landslide risk in the hamlet. PaTCoF team also assisted in clearing Anappady- Parambikulam road of debris accumulated due to landslides and treefall during the monsoons







## 2.7 AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS AND OUTREACH

### 2.7.1 Fire awareness campaign at Parambikulam Tiger Reserve

Awareness campaigns were conducted at Kuriarkutty tribal hamlets during January in anticipation of the upcoming fire season. About 42 persons including forest officials, and officials of other departments, naturalists, watchers and residents participated in the program. The participants carried placards and banners depicting slogans regarding

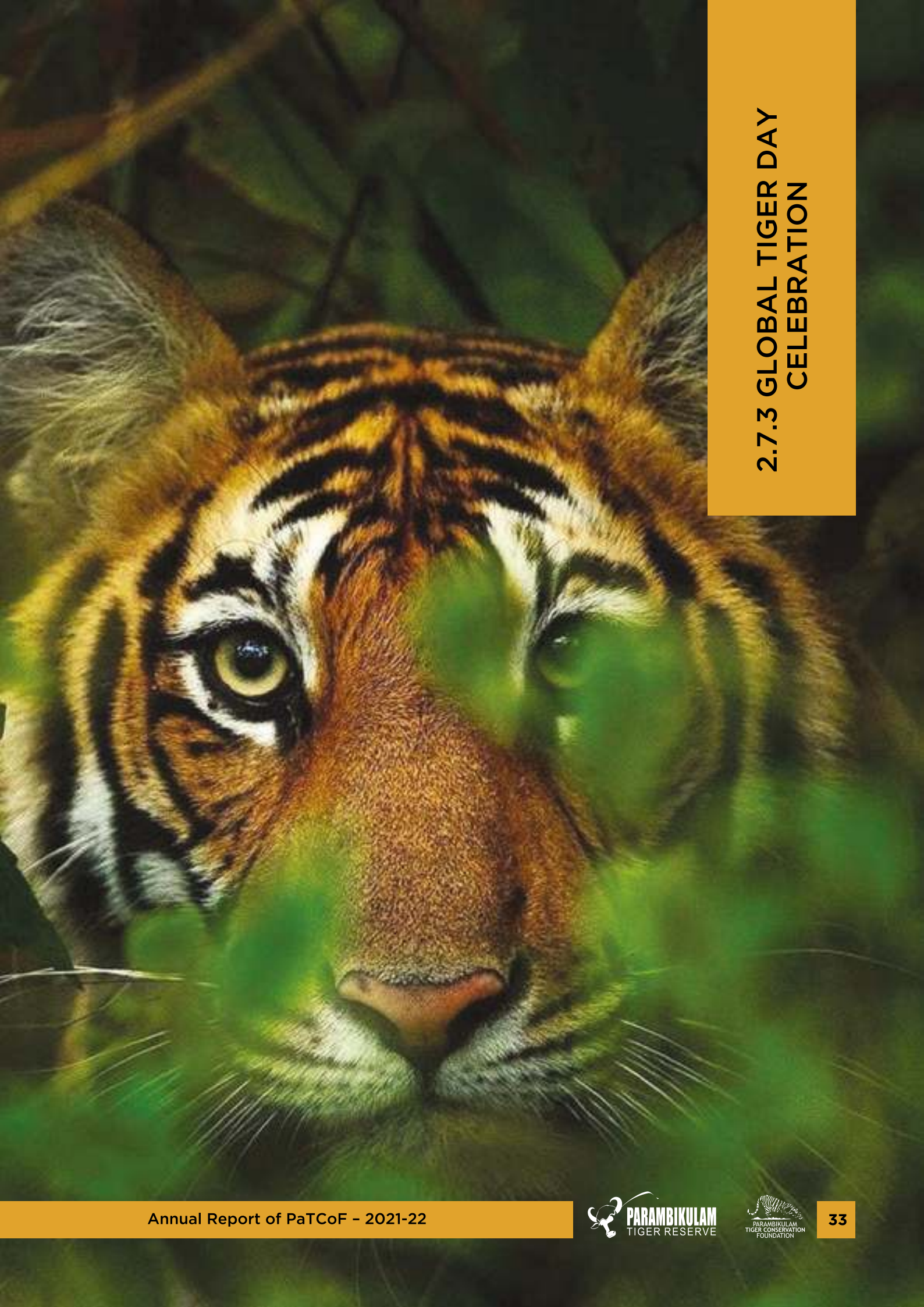
importance of forest protection from wildfires. Police officials and PHC officials participated and appreciated the importance of the campaign and its message. As part of the awareness program, participants shared their messages to the others and took a pledge to prevent forest fire. Battery Operated Torches carrying the message of 'Prevention of Forest Fire' were also distributed among the participants.



### 2.7.2 Documentation of CT operations and 8 Day protocol

PaTCoF produced a video documentary regarding Tiger census using camera traps and 8-Day protocol. The videos were developed in anticipation of the All-India Tiger Estimation Program which was slated to be conducted in the country. The 8 day protocol video was

uploaded in YouTube channel of PaTCoF (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GyQhMmfFah0&t=35s>) to act as both a guide to officials regarding actual conduct of the process and also as a means of reaching out to interested members of the public. The CT video has been kept for restricted viewing of staff for training.



## 2.7.3 GLOBAL TIGER DAY CELEBRATION

### 2.7.3 Global Tiger Day Celebration

On July 29th, 2021, PaTCoF celebrated Global Tiger Day and on 12th of August, 2021, the World Elephant Day. To ensure that the messages of these important days reach the general public, an online competition conducted by PaTCoF. The Online event was a short video competition with the pre-designated theme of conservation. Participants

submitted their entries in relation to the topic. These videos were posted on our official Facebook/Instagram pages from 29th July to 10th August 2021 and it was evaluated based on the total number of likes it received from the public. The winners were felicitated at SFTI Walayar in an event organised in association with the Rally on Wheels program.

**29TH JULY  
GLOBAL TIGER DAY  
PARAMBIKULAM TIGER RESERVE**

FROM A HUMBLE SANCTUARY IN 1985 TO ONE AMONG THE TOP TEN TIGER RESERVES OF INDIA, NOW HOME TO MORE THAN 25 TIGERS.

REMEMBERING, WITH GRATITUDE, ALL WHO WERE PART OF THIS JOURNEY.

"THEIR SURVIVAL IS IN OUR HANDS"

[www.parambikulam.org](http://www.parambikulam.org)

**GLOBAL TIGER DAY 2021  
SHORT VIDEO  
COMPETITION WINNERS**

**1ST PRIZE  
NAZEER C Y**

**2ND PRIZE  
NSS,  
VTE COLLEGE**

**3RD PRIZE  
MANESSH  
NARAYANAN**

*Congratulations Winners*

[www.parambikulam.org](http://www.parambikulam.org)

**GLOBAL TIGER DAY  
SHORT VIDEO  
COMPETITION 2021**

**ON JULY 29<sup>TH</sup> 2021**

On July 29, world is celebrating Global Tiger Day to further conservation awareness, an online competition will be conducted by Parambikulam Tiger Conservation Foundation. The online event will be a short video competition in which anyone can participate and submit videos on environment/nature conservation and/or wildlife conservation. These videos will be posted on our official Facebook and Instagram page and it will be evaluated based on the total number of likes they receive from the public.

- Entries shall be accepted from 29th July 2021
- Last date of submission- 07:00 PM, 10th August 2021
- Prizes shall be decided based on likes received by the video post as on 07:00 PM on 10th August 2021

**1<sup>ST</sup> PRIZE INR 10,000**

**2<sup>ND</sup> PRIZE INR 7,000**

**3<sup>RD</sup> PRIZE INR 5,000**

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**CONSERVE WILDLIFE**

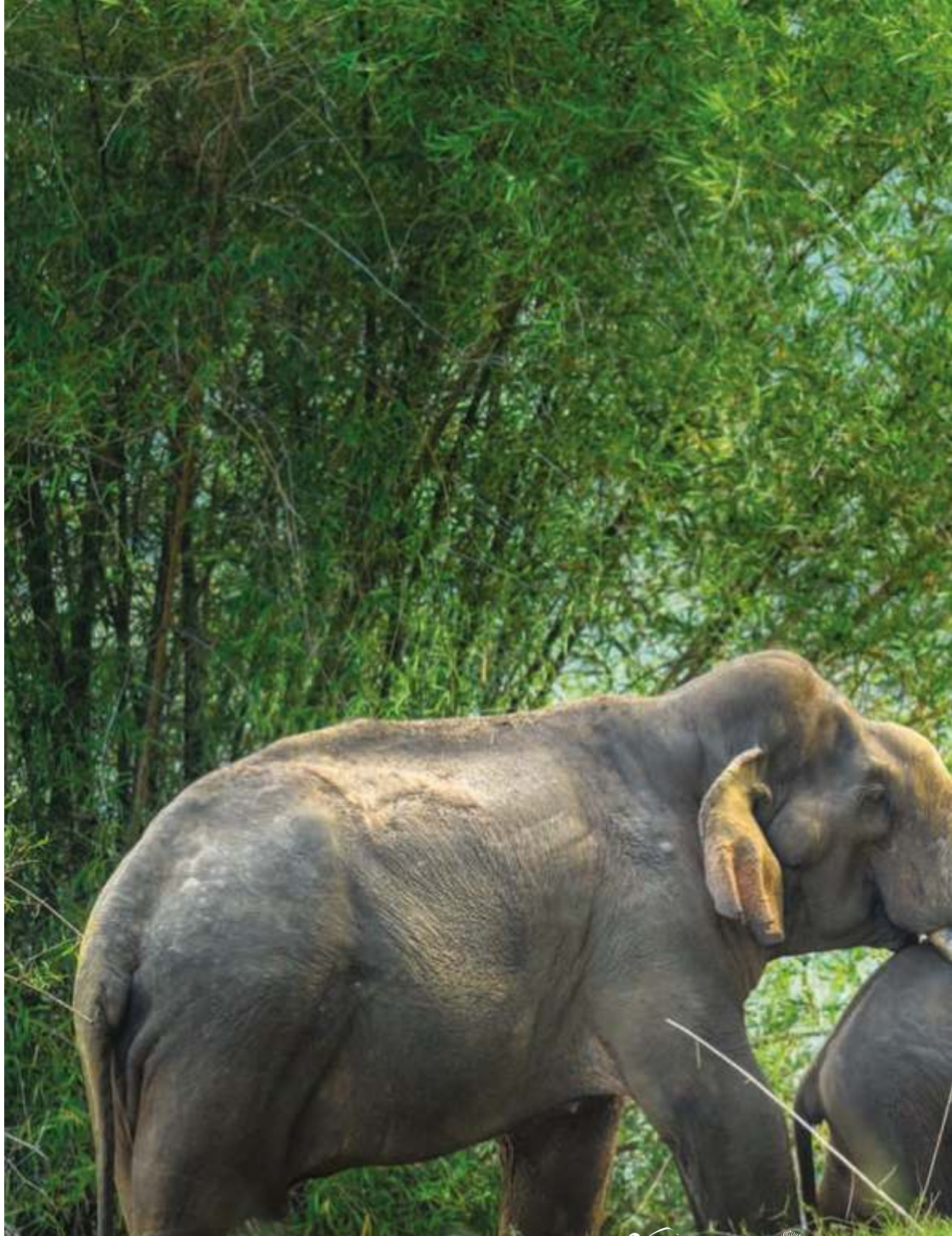
**SHOOT THEM  
WITH CAMERA  
& WIN CASH PRIZE**

FOR MORE DETAILS LOG ON TO  
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**2.7.4 WILDLIFE  
WEEK CELEBRATION**

### 2.7.4 Wildlife week celebration

PaTCoF celebrated the 5-day Wildlife Week in Parambikulam Tiger Reserve. Residents from each tribal settlement actively participated in the activities and competitions organised during the event. Even though Sports Events were the highlight of the celebrations, various arts competition were also conducted such as

Pencil drawing, Poem writing and Essay writing. All the programs were conducted under the supervision of Range Officers of Parambikulam Tiger Reserve.

The winners were felicitated during a closing ceremony conducted at Parambikulam on the closing day



## 2.7.5 India for Tigers - 'A rally on wheels'

In association with PaTCoF, on September 28th 2021, Parambikulam Tiger Reserve celebrated and participated in the 'Rally on wheels' program co-ordinated by National Tiger Conservation Authority, celebrating and extolling the values of Tiger Conservation. The



program was envisioned as a rally connecting the various Tiger Reserves of the country and Parambikulam was part of the South India Leg of the same.

Parambikulam Tiger Reserve received the NTCA flag from Periyar Tiger Reserve and hosted the rally with various outreach programs on 29th September 2021, in Palakkad district before handing over the NTCA flag to the Anamalai Tiger Reserve.

An inauguration program was conducted at Parambikulam Tiger Reserve on 28th September 2021, which was inaugurated by the Field Director K.V. Uthaman, IFS in the presence of IG of NTCA N. S. Murali IFS, Deputy Director Vysak Sasikumar IFS and Periyar Tiger Reserve Deputy Director Sunil Babu IFS. A Total of 52 members participated in the event, including forest staff, naturalists, antipoaching watchers and PaTCoF staff

On 29th September at 9.00 AM, Hon'ble Nemmara MLA Shri K. Babu Flagged-off the Rally from Parambikulam Tiger Reserve. Parambikulam TR, Field Director conveyed the conservation message to the gathering of 60 which included tourists and public, the Tiger Conservation pledge was administered by the IG of NTCA.

Rally comprised of 6 vehicles - 3 from other Tiger Reserves and rest from Parambikulam TR. All the vehicles were adorned with stickers extolling the message of the rally. After covering 70 Kms, Rally on wheels reached

Pothundy section of Nemmara Division at 11.00 AM, where there was a gathering of 70 Pothundy VSS members along with forest staffs and public. Parambikulam Tiger Reserve Dy. Director addressed the gathering and felicitated the 16 retired forest officials who played the vital roles in protection and conservation of this landscape. Later a video documentary on 'Tiger Conservation; a history and science' was screened to the gathering .

Then Rally moved to Flying Squad office at Nemmara by 12.00 PM, which is 20 Kms from Pothundy, where staff laid tributes at the Forest Martyrs' Memorial. From Pothundy, the rally moved to State Forest Training Institute, Walayar via Palakkad City which is about 30 Kms from Nemmara. Here, Deputy Director Vysak Sasikumar IFS conducted a session about the Importance of Tiger Conservation and Estimation to the 30 trainees and public who gathered at the Institute.

'Rally on wheels' left SFTI Walayar and moved to Office of the Field Director Anamalai Tiger Reserve, where the Field Director Shri K.V. Uthaman IFS handed over the NTCA flag to the Anamalai Tiger Reserve FD Shri S. Ramasubramanian IFS. A video documentation of the entire event was carried out and release on the PaTCoF YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PIQURuGUuAE>



### 2.7.3 International Day of Forests Celebration

International Day of Forests 2022 was celebrated by PaTCoF and Parambikulam Tiger Reserve. PaTCoF organised a webinar on the topic “The Forests of Western Ghats” by Prof. E. Kunhikrishnan on 20.03.2022. The webinar was of one hour duration and attended by Tourists, Visitors, Staff and School Students.

On the day of IDF, PaTCoF organised a rally by Parambikulam Team at Nemmara, in order to garner larger public attention to the event. Hon'ble Nemmara MLA and PaTCoF Governing

Body member Shri K. Babu inaugurated the rally and addressed the gathering. The rally covered the whole of Nemmara town with slogans and placards.

The participants of the rally in association with NSS members of NSS college Nemmara with about 210 members in strength set about a cleaning drive of the vested forest near NSS College which was dumped with plastic over the years. The cleaning drive saw the removal of around 80 sacks of plastics which was loaded onto the truck arranged by Gram Panchayath for safe disposal.



## 2.7.7 Commemorating important days

PaTCoF facilitated the celebration and commemoration of important national and international days including Independence Day, Republic Day, Forest Martyrs' Day, World Wetland Day, International Day of Forests etc



## 2.7.8 Contribution to the Kerala Forest Sports Meet

PaTCoF was one among the official sponsors of the Kerala Forest Sports and Games Meet 2021-22. The event was held in Thiruvananthapuram and witnessed enthusiastic participation from staff members belonging to all categories of Kerala Forest Department from all over the state. The event is also a forum for protection staff from all over the state of Kerala to come together and interact. The overall championship of the Sports Meet was won by Eastern Circle Team which



included participants from Parambikulam Tiger Reserve as well. PaTCoF was also the designers and sponsors of the jersey adorned by the Eastern Circle team for all events. PaTCoF sponsored around 485 jerseys for the Eastern Circle Team, PaTCoF also sponsored around 60 jerseys and 650 face masks for the conduct of Circle level sports meet during the reporting period.



## 2.7.9 Sponsorship of a bus to the SFTI Walayar

SFTI Walayar is one of the two state level institutes for training of protective staff of Kerala Forest Department. Recruits to the Department undergo extensive class sessions and field visits as part of their training. Exposure visits play a key role in familiarising the staff about the field realities and the functioning of different forest divisions of the state. At present the institute does not have a proper vehicle to facilitate movement of their students. PaTCoF in association with various FDAs of Central, Eastern and Wildlife (North) Circle is sponsoring two buses for SFTI, Walayar. PaTCoF has contributed 10 lakhs for this purpose.





# 2.8 EXPOSURE VISITS

## 2.8.1 Visits by other organizations

As part of study tours and exposure visits, Parambikulam Tiger Reserve had the following visitors during the reporting period. Technical/professional inputs for these exposure visits were provided by PaTCoF team.

SI No.	Date	Participants	No. of Days	Participants
1	TNFA Coimbatore	06-10-2021	1	31
2	TNFA Coimbatore	09-10-2021	1	24
3	SFTI Arippa	29-11-2021	2	55
4	Nature Club, Marthoma College of Science and Technology	16-12-2021	2	18
5	Press Club Members	20-12-2021	2	30
6	SFTI Arippa	02-01-2022	3	32
7	College of Forestry, KAU	05-01-2022	2	27
8	Fire and Rescue Senior Officers	19-01-2022	2	37
9	Forest College and Research Institute	12-02-2022	1	70
10	KAP, Kannur	23-02-2022	3	57

## 2.9 AWARDS AND ACCOLADES



## 2.9.1 CA|TS Accreditation

Parambikulam Tiger Reserve is one among 14 Tiger Reserve in the country to be awarded with CA|TS accreditation during the reporting period. The extensive submission and documentation for this accreditation was prepared and submitted by the PaTCoF team lead by the Deputy Director of Parambikulam Tiger Reserve, Shri Vysak Sasikumar IFS

CA|TS is a globally accepted conservation tool that sets best practice and standards to manage tigers and encourages assessments to

benchmark progress. CA|TS is being implemented across 125 sites in seven tiger range countries and India has the highest 94 sites, out of which assessment was completed for 20 tiger reserves this year.

“We now have 51 tiger reserves across 18 states. I congratulate all officials and stakeholders involved that we have been able to maintain and reach international standards in order to get the accreditation,” said the Hon'ble Minister for Environment Forests and Climate Change, Govt. of India during the award ceremony.



## 2.9.2 NatWest Earth Heroes Awards

Parambikulam Tiger Conservation Foundation won the prestigious NatWest Group Earth Heroes Award in the category 'Earth Guardian' for the year 2021. The NatWest Group Earth Heroes Awards were constituted in India in 2011 to extend support to the national efforts towards management of India's rich forest and wetland biodiversity through the work of outstanding individuals and institutions who go beyond call of duty in the conservation of India's endangered species, their habitats and

community interests in bioresources. The award winners are chosen by an independent jury comprising some of India's best minds in biodiversity management and wildlife conservation. The awards carry a citation, a small cash award and a widely disseminated media effort on the award winners and their work.

“It gives me immense pleasure to share with you that the jury of the 11th NatWest Group Earth Heroes Awards (previously known as RBS Earth Heroes Awards) have recommended Parambikulam Tiger Conservation Foundation as the winner of 'Earth Guardian' award for 2021. The jury has noted with commendation the exemplary work carried out by the Wildlife Wing of Kerala and the managing team of the Parambikulam Tiger Conservation Foundation in undertaking community and eco development work that has significantly contributed to the conservation outcomes at Parambikulam Tiger Reserve.



My congratulations on behalf of the NatWest Group to the Field Director, his team and the Foundation team and our best wishes for success in all their future endeavours” said Shri N. Sunil Kumar, Director, Sustainable Banking India, NatWest Group, NatWest India Foundation. “We are honoured, Parambikulam Foundation, besides its conservation efforts,

also ensures that local inhabitants are benefited through participation in conservation activities,” said Parambikulam Tiger Reserve Deputy Director Vysak Sasikumar IFS while receiving the award. The award ceremony is available online at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mx8Jg6WU4qo&t=2s>



## Some feedback from tourists during the reporting period

“Outstanding Hospitality by the Kerala Forest Officials and Local Tribe who involved this Tourism coordination.”

Food Was 100% satisfied, Stay was 100% satisfied

Travel package during stay including sight seeing was 100% satisfied. Guest followup & Food menu intimation before checkin was amazing”

- *Sivasubrahmanian*

“We had a very good time, guide Lakshman was very courteous and knowledgeable. We could see many animals like wild buffalo, deer, black monkey, black squirrel. Many peacocks and wild dogs were also sighted. We could see one single tusker elephant from very close. Food was simple and good”

- *Anita Martin*

“Hello , First of all , We would like to thank Kerela Government and Parambikulam Staffs for the entire Experiences, We Enjoyed a lot in the wilderness, Experience was like never before ! The stay at PERUVARI island is one of the most beautiful place to stay in India ! Every Person in this world should experience this stay once in their life time ! The rooms was clean and the restroom was also clean and tidy ! Thanks for the maintenance. And the staffs who came along with us was the best ! They took care of us well from guiding and cooking & serving the food. “

- *Siva Kumar Gopal*

“Place was excellent Tent living was new experience Food was very good Kerala govt has maintained the Tiger reserve with good rules & regulations 4 days of our stay was taken care by the well versed staff who were very obliging to take care of us Overall it was a fantastic experience to stay in the cool jungle amidst animals we saw tiger bison elephants black buck sambar deers and hundreds of breathtaking birds Continue your good work Thanx for making our stay beautiful during the year end & new year”

-*G Raghunath*

“Experience in Perambikulam was amazing. We liked the quiet of the place, delicious food, and hospitable staff. Other than a suggestion to provide insect repellent for guests, I do not have any more suggestions because the reserve is well run the way it is.”

-*Deepa*

I have visited and stayed in many forest resorts. the experience in Honey Comb cannot be explained but can only be experienced. The care that the staff took was admirable. the scenic beauty in the back drop of total silence coupled with discipline of the residents there is something to be enjoyed and cherished. power was a constant problem. my guide is a very wonderful person.

- *Sankaranarayanan*

## **Parambikulam Tiger Reserve**

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