

Best Practice- (Date: 07:03:2017)
Department of Zoology
Amolakchand Mahavidyalaya, Yavatmal

Title of the practice: One Day District Level workshop on "**Common Bird Monitoring Program**"

Objectives of the practice:

1. To acquaint all concerned professors of biology, science teachers, environmentalists, ornithologists, research students and college level students about bird life in Yavatmal district.
2. To get knowledge from experts about species diversity, their habitat, particular habits, typical place of occurrence and their role in nature.
3. To learn the scientific methods from experts to count the bird species in their habitat without interfering them so as to know the present status of every species.
4. To understand the threats to habitat and bird diversity due to various reasons like urbanization, deforestation, destruction of habitat, encroachment on wetland and numbers of anthropogenic activities.
5. To get some ideas about the role of individuals that can help to improve conditions and apply the methods of bird conservation.

The Context:

BNHs and IBCN are renowned organizations that are working excellently in many areas related to birds and their habitats. These organizations decided to conduct a one-day workshop on "Common Bird Monitoring Program" at district level in each district of Maharashtra with full funding in local colleges and offered Department of Zoology, Amolakchand College to organize a one day workshop.

Description of the practice:

The best practice "common bird monitoring program" involves systematic data collection on bird populations to monitor their abundance and distribution. Its uniqueness lies in its potential application in higher education in India, serving as an experiential learning opportunity for bird watchers, teachers, ornithologists, environmentalists, research students, college-level students, and members of the local community. Constraints include limited resources, expertise, and infrastructure for implementation.

Mr. Nandkishore Dudhe, Research Assistant, Bombay Natural History Society and Indian Bird Conservation Network, contacted Dr. Praveen Joshi, Associate Professor of Zoology of the college in February 2017 and discussed role and purpose behind conducting the workshop and finalized the date and format of the workshop.

The format of the program was as follows—

Registration	9:00 am to 9:30 am
Breakfast	9:30 am to 10:00 am
Inaugural Program	10:00 am to 10:30 am
First Lecture by Shri Nandkishore Dudhe	10:30 am to 11:30 am
Second Lecture by Shri Nandkishore Dudhe	11:45 am to 12:45 pm
Question and answer Session	12:45 pm to 1:00 pm
Lunch	1:00 pm to 2:00 pm
Visit to forest department park (hands-on demonstration on how to count birds)	2:00 pm to 4:00 pm
Closing Ceremony	4:00 pm to 4:30 pm
Certificate distribution	4:30 pm to 5:00 pm

REPORT

A one day District Level workshop on "Common Bird Monitoring Program" was organised by Department of Zoology, Amolakchand Mahavidyalaya, Yavatmal in association with Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS) and Indian Bird Conservation Network (IBCN) on 07-03-2017 in Vasantnao Naik Auditorium of the college.

IBCN is a renowned organization having excellent work in different areas related to birds and their habitats. The workshop was aimed to sensitize the bird watchers, teachers, ornithologists, environmentalists, research students, college-level students, and members of the local community on the need to monitor and conserve bird species, their diversity, habitat, particular habits, typical place of occurrence, understand scientific methods of counting the bird species in their habitat to know the present status of every bird species, understand the threats to habitat and bird diversity due to various reasons like urbanization, deforestation, destruction of habitat, encroachment on wetlands and numbers of anthropogenic activities, etc. commonly found in the area of Yavatmal district.

The workshop began with an inaugural function followed by an interactive session by Shri. Nandkishore Dudhe on the importance of birds in maintaining the ecological balance and the role of local communities in conserving them. The participants were taken through the basic bird identification and monitoring techniques, including bird-watching, bird-call recognition, and behaviour observation.

Shri. Nandkishore Dudhe emphasized the importance of long-term monitoring and recording bird populations to track changes and trends. He also highlighted the significance of community participation in monitoring and reporting bird sightings and behaviour, which can help in identifying threats and taking necessary conservation measures. The workshop participants were shown various monitoring tools and platforms, such as e-Bird and Bird Count in India, which aid in recording and sharing bird data. The workshop concluded with a visit to the forest department park for a hands-on demonstration on counting birds, a closing Ceremony and certificate distribution to all participants. A total of 128 full-time participants including 52 professors, 15 research students, and 61 students from sixteen Taluka's of Yavatmal district were present for this workshop. The program was funded by BNHS.

Dr. Praveen Joshi, Associate Professor, of the Department of Zoology was the convener of the workshop. Prof. Kirankumar Gawai and Dr. Sunita Gupta of the Zoology Department were the

members of organizing team who worked to make the workshop successful. Honorary Wildlife Warden and Secretary, Cobra Club, Yavatmal Mr. Shyam Joshi was present along with his colleagues. The workshop was successfully organized under the guidance of Dr. R. A. Mishra, Principal of the college. Overall, the workshop received a positive response. The participants expressed their commitment to monitor and conserve the bird species in the area.

Evidences of Success:

Some selected photos from the one day district level workshop--.



Workshop Receipt Book-1 to 75



Workshop Receipt Book-101 to 156



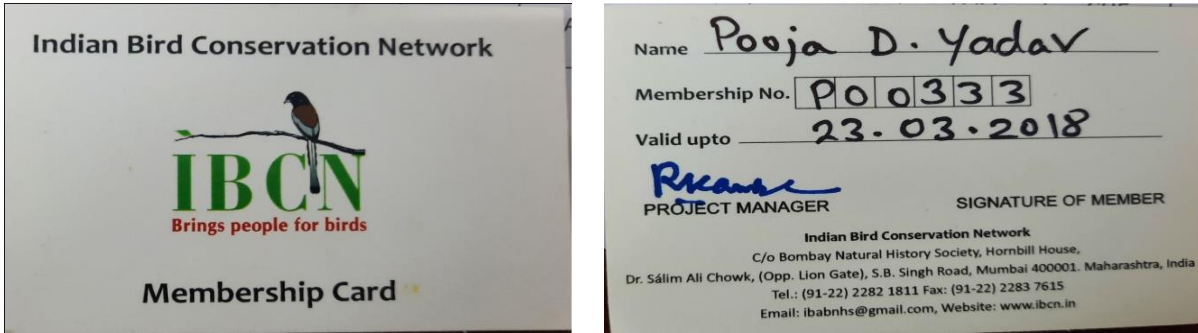
Shri. Nandkishore Dudhe delivering a lecture



Shri Nandkishore Dudhe giving a practical demonstration on bird counting in the forest park



One day workshop certificate



IBCN card issued to every participant

Problem encountered and resources required:

Even though no problem was encountered in organizing this workshop, 1) balancing the schedule of speakers, participants and organizers proved challenging within the limit of one day event and 2) active participation from attendees made challenging due to insufficient hands on activities and peer to peer learning.

The arrangements of resources required to organize the workshop such as funding, facilities (seating arrangements and LCD projector), expert speakers/trainers, materials, registration and communication tools, refreshment and feedback mechanism were made available.

Any other Information:

The one-day workshop held at Amolakchand College was attended by delegates such as professors, teachers, workers of various organizations and students interested in the field of nature, birds and conservation and they urged to organize workshops on other topics related to this subject in future also.



President
Randhir Sahgal

Ref: 2110/2022

20th Oct 2022

To, Whom-so-ever-it-may-concern

This is to certify that a one-day District level workshop on "Common Bird Monitoring Program" was organized on 7th March 2017 at Amolakchand College, Yavatmal. Dr. Praveen Joshi, Associate Professor of Zoology had made all the necessary arrangement for the workshop. Mr. Nandkishore Dudhe, Research Assistant of Bombay Natural History Society delivered a talk on bird identification and its counting technique.

A total of 128 participants including professors, researcher and students attended this workshop. The programme was funded by the Bombay Natural History Society. Mr. Shyam Joshi, Secretary and Honorary Wildlife Warden of Yavatmal district was present. He is founder member of the Cobra Adventure and Nature Club. Dr. R.A. Mishra, Principal, Amolakchand College was convener of the programme.

The schedule of the program was as follows:

9:30 to 10:00 Breakfast

10 to 10:30 Inaugural Program

10:30 to 11:30 First Lecture on Bird Identification by Shri Nandkishore Dudhe

11:45 to 12:45 Second Lecture on Bird Counting technique by Shri Nandkishore Dudhe

12:45 to 1:00 question and answer session

1:00 to 2:00 Lunch

2:00 to 4:00 PM Visit to forest department park for hands-on demonstration on how to count birds

4:00 to 4:30 Closing Ceremony

4:30 to 5:00 Certificate distribution

Thanking you,

Dr. Raju Kasambe
Assistant Director - Education,
BNHS Conservation Education Centre (CEC),