

## **Project Update: March 2016**

There are two important components in the project. One is approaching around 7,000 students of 80 different government or government aided schools and another is providing orientation to 60 teachers of such schools through one day workshop, accommodating 30 teachers at a time.

There were two publications, a snake folder in Gujarati to distribute to the students and a teacher's activity manual to distribute during orientation workshops. The snake folder has been developed and already in use during the programmes. The content development and translation of the activity manual is completed, and it is ready for printing. The RSGF logo is used in both of these publications.

A total number of 1016 of students 31 teachers from 10 schools visited to Sundarvan and we made visits to 29 schools and carried out programme for 2913 students and 81 teachers during this period.

### **Approach**

1. A pictorial PowerPoint presentation with information such as introduction to reptiles, general facts about snakes, their diversity, venomous, non-venomous snakes, commonly found snakes of this area, precautions to avoid bite, first aid and treatment in case of any accidental bites, myths and facts and conservation issues, is shown to them using projector during our visits to schools.
2. Animal artifact such as slough (moult skin) is given to them to have close look.
3. Snake folder is distributed to all the participants and a set of two posters on venomous and non-venomous snakes that already available with Sundarvan are given to the school to display in a prominent place in their premises.
4. The schools that visit Sundarvan are taken around in our facility and a snake awareness programme conducted, using some of live snakes. Resource materials such as snake folder and poster are distributed to them.
5. Questionnaire survey is conducted for students before and after the programme to evaluate the effectiveness of the programme. A feedback form is also get filled from the teachers who participate the programme.

### **Outcomes**

1. Schools are chosen from outskirts of Ahmedabad, where people have regular encounter with snakes.
2. The teachers' feedback clearly indicates that the programme is very useful for them and very informative.
3. Most of the schools wants to bring the students, who did not get chance to attend our programme to Sundarvan to know more on these fascinating animal group.

### **Plan for next 6 months**

1. Printing of teacher's activity manual and conducting workshop for 60 teachers.

2. Conducting programmes of remaining schools to cover maximum number of students and teachers.



Left: Curious students interact with Mr Pavan Patel, Resource Person, to know facts about snakes during their visit to Sundarvan. Middle: Students with snake folders developed from the support of RSGF. Right: Students explore the slough of snake during one of the awareness programmes.